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IN TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST

● The French Academy wages relentless war against language corruption. But here, as Liat Collins reports, the Academy of the Hebrew Language does not see itself as the language police. Magazine.

● The classified Rand report for the Pentagon set out to examine the possibility of a US presence on the Golan Heights. But it fails to draw any conclusions, Hillel Kuttler reports from Washington. Section B.

● Summertime, and the living was easy. Too easy, that waistline may be telling you. Allison Kaplan Sommer finds a local health spa on the front line of the fight against the holiday flab. Magazine.

● Yes, kibbutz life is different. But how about kibbutz life Japanese-style? Judith Sudilovsky interviews an Israeli couple who volunteered for 18 months on Kibbutz Ittoen. Section B.



Maverick Labor MK Avigdor Kahalani (second from right) meets with Golan Heights hunger strikers (from right) Drora Shenk, of Kibbutz Merom Golan, Katzrin Mayor Sami Bar-Lev, and Ra'anan Levy, of Moshav Asseret.

Peres: Time running out in talks with Syria

DAVID MAKOVSKY

SHOULD the talks between Israel and Syria fail, fighting in southern Lebanon would probably escalate, Syrian rearmament would intensify, and the Damascus-Teheran relationship would deepen, a senior government official warned in a rare briefing for reporters yesterday.

However should peace be achieved with Syria, he said, it would effectively neutralize the Hizbullah threat in southern Lebanon.

He suggested Syria has quietly acceded to Israel's demand that limited forces zones on either side of a demilitarized Golan not be of equal size. Aside from this, Syria continues to resist other security demands, he said.

He charged that both Syria and Israel are "digging in" on their respective positions. Unless direct secret talks are held at some point, the current US-led diplomacy is bound to fail, he lamented.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told reporters yesterday that Israel cannot accept Damascus's demand that withdrawal from the Golan be completed before the next election, slated for 1996, since this is not enough time to test Syria's commitment to peace.

At the same time, Peres said that pre-election jockeying will begin no later than mid-1995, thus there is little time left to reach a deal.

"I think time is running out, but what can you do about it?" Peres said. "We are only responsible for 50 percent of the story. When it comes to opening positions, I don't think the Syrians have changed theirs."

He added that genuine negotiations with Damascus have not yet begun.

Both Peres's remarks and those of the senior official reflected a further dampening of expectations, after US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross, after meeting Syrian President Hafez Assad and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, publicly indicated Wednesday that no breakthrough is imminent.

If the negotiations fail, the senior official said, there will be "a sharpening of the conflict in Lebanon, more Syrian chemical weapons, more missiles. [The Syrians] would have closer links with Iran," he said.

He also sought to make it clear that there are considerable risks in maintaining the status quo on the Golan Heights.

Labor MKs given rough reception by Golan activists

DAVID RUDGE

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin lashed out at the Golan hunger strikers last night, while at the same time reaffirming his commitment to a referendum before any withdrawal from the Heights.

"I am ready for a referendum," Rabin said. "I do not accept hunger strikes as proper behavior in a democracy, whether there are 12 or 25 strikers.

"It is simply unacceptable that a small group, even of 100 people, will decide that if the government doesn't accept its opinion on a given issue, it will declare a hunger strike."

Meanwhile, Labor MKs were given a very rowdy reception by Golan activists when they visited the Gamla protest tent yesterday and vainly tried to persuade the hunger strikers to end their fast.

The MKs, led by the party Knesset faction chairman Eli Dayan, had to give up attempts to speak after they were drowned by the vociferous crowd.

Scuffles broke out when a protester got carried away while shouting "chicken" at MK Eli Goldschmidt, who withdrew his support for a bill to strengthen the Golan law.

Dayan was also pushed and shoved as he entered the hunger strikers' succa for a planned meeting with veteran Labor party members and supporters among those leading the fight to retain sovereignty over the Golan.

The other MKs, who braved the heat of the day and the ire of the demonstrators to visit the hunger strikers, included Dalia Itzik, Yossi Katz, Shlomo Bubbut, Yoram Lass, and Yosef Vanunu.

Goldschmidt received the first angry broadside when he agreed with the crowd of hecklers, several apparently from opposition parties, that he was a "chicken" – because he was "afraid of losing the chance for peace."

Earlier, hunger striker and veteran Laborite Yehuda Harel, of Kibbutz Merom Golan, warned that Labor was losing support because of its stance over the Golan.

"We didn't come here to lie to you, but to look you in the eyes and tell you the truth: Nobody in this country, not even the hunger strikers, has the right to try and prevent negotiations with Syria," shouted Dayan over the demonstrators.

Earlier, maverick Labor MK Avigdor Kahalani hosted a "security forum" of retired generals and senior IDF officers, all of whom reiterated the importance of the Golan for national security.

Hunger striker Sammy Bar-Lev, head of the Katzrin local council, told the forum that the fight for the Golan had only just begun, and that it is no longer enough just to visit Gamla and show solidarity with the protesters.

"We don't want a referendum when everything has already been signed, we demand a referendum now. Only you, the people, can stand up to Rabin," shouted Bar-Lev, despite looking weak after 12 days without food.

Bubbut told *The Jerusalem Post* that his heart went out to the people of the Golan. "I feel torn in two. On the one hand, I see the residents of the Golan and I can sympathize with them, while on the other, there's a war going on in Lebanon, with IDF casualties virtually every week, and I know that without peace with Syria, that war will continue."

Thousands of people flocked to the Gamla site yesterday in a massive show of solidarity with the hunger strikers and the Golan activists. Hunger striker Uri Heitner said he confidently expected the total number of visitors to top the 120,000 mark by the end of the week.

Heitner, of Kibbutz Ortal, said the secretariat of all the Golan kibbutzim affiliated to the United Kibbutz Movement are recommending breaking away from the movement unless it agrees to support the campaign to keep the Heights.

Syria rejects Israeli call to hold high-level talks

DAMASCUS (Reuter) – Syria yesterday rejected an Israeli call to hold high-level talks and accused Israel's leaders of trying to postpone a peace settlement with Damascus.

"The call to raise the level of negotiators is another step within the framework of procrastination and the postponement of the achievement of the aspired results of the peace process," Damascus government radio said.

The radio repeated Syria's readiness to meet what Damascus termed the requirements of a just and comprehensive peace but said Israel should first withdraw fully from the Golan Heights.

The peace talks between Syria and Israel are being held on an ambassadorial level.

Israel's chief negotiator with Syria, ambassador to the US Itamar Rabinovich, said during the visit of US Middle East peace envoy Dennis Ross on Wednesday that efforts were being made to arrange a high-level meeting between Israel and Syria.

"We believe it would be good for the political leadership from both sides to meet as early as possible," Rabinovich said.

In Jerusalem, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres confirmed yesterday that Damascus opposed any high-level meeting with Israel before it began a withdrawal on the Golan Heights.

"...Until now the Syrian position is that they don't want to meet at a political level before there will be a withdrawal or some such thing. So there is no plan for meetings at the moment," Peres said.

Damascus radio added: "It has become clear to the world, the US administration and to the Israeli officials that the achievement of peace could only be made through the practical implementation of its requirements...

"These requirements start with the full withdrawal from the occupied lands in the Golan and south Lebanon to reach the other peace requirements which will bring security and stability to the region and the world."

Ross had talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad in Damascus on Wednesday and told him that US Secretary of State Warren Christopher would visit the region next month to continue the US peace drive.

The envoy, after meeting Peres and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Wednesday, said "real gaps" remained in the Israeli and Syrian positions.

Four hurt as protesters defy IDF, storm Machpela Cave

BILL HUTMAN

FOUR protesters were lightly injured and about 20 detained yesterday as thousands of settlers and their supporters stormed the Machpela Cave in Hebron to protest an army attempt to keep them from holding a Succot gathering there.

Soldiers were unable to keep the crowd from approaching the holy site, but managed to prevent anyone from entering.

"What happened is nothing compared to what will happen if the Machpela Cave is not opened soon," said Noam Arnon, a spokesman for the Hebron settlers.

"We are simply dealing with a government that does not understand the importance of the Machpela Cave to the Jewish people," Arnon added.

The protest began after the army tried to move the annual Succot gathering from the Machpela Cave to Kiryat Arba for secu-

(Continued on Page 2)

First rains fall on Mt. Hermon

THE first rain of the season fell on Mt. Hermon yesterday, sprinkling the ground for over 20 minutes.

The weather bureau said some showers could also be expected today in parts of the North and the Jezreel Valley.

The partly cloudy weather is expected to break over the weekend with a slight rise in temperatures, although the forecasters said this would change again by next Monday, with the possibility of another spate of localized showers in the North.

David Rudge

Tourists



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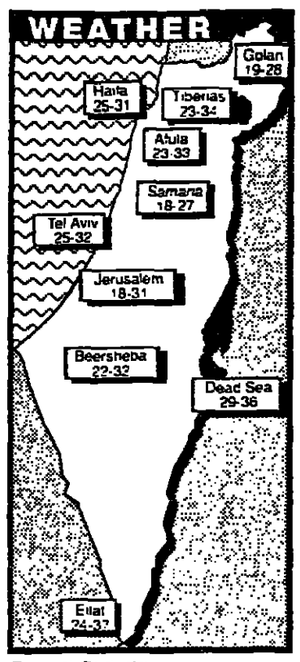
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Forecast: Partly cloudy

Outlook for Shabbat: Partly cloudy and slightly cooler with a chance of rain in the north.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	08	46	17	63	clear
Berlin	08	46	17	63	cloudy
Buenos Aires	15	59	21	69	rain
Cairo	22	72	34	93	p.cloudy
Chicago	19	66	28	82	rain
Copenhagen	11	52	16	59	cloudy
Frankfurt	08	46	19	66	cloudy
Geneva	10	50	20	68	cloudy
Helsinki	06	43	13	55	cloudy
Hong Kong	27	81	31	88	clear
Jo'burg	09	48	26	79	clear
Lisbon	20	68	28	82	clear
London	12	54	20	68	cloudy
Los Angeles	15	59	31	88	clear
Madrid	13	55	23	73	cloudy
Montreal	12	54	22	72	clear
Moscow	09	48	24	75	clear
New York	17	63	27	81	rain
Paris	07	45	15	59	p.cloudy
Rome	14	57	24	75	clear
Stockholm	06	43	14	57	clear
Sydney	17	63	22	71	cloudy
Tokyo	21	70	31	88	rain
Toronto	11	51	26	79	clear
Vienna	06	43	20	68	p.cloudy

'Nablus First' plan under consideration

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

ISRAEL may decide to gradually and selectively redeploy IDF forces in the territories, a senior government official said in a briefing yesterday.

The idea has been informally termed by some as "Nablus or Jenin first."

Concern about the negative security consequences of IDF redeployment, which according to the Oslo Accord is linked to Palestinian elections, has led Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to tell about a dozen senior officials this week that he favored a go-slow approach to Palestinian balloting.

Israeli officials have told Palestinians that if PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat would demonstrate a better grip in dealing with Islamic militant groups, it could work to alleviate some Israeli concerns on IDF redeployment.

In remarks published yesterday, Arafat said he was suspicious of Israeli hesitations, complaining that Israel wants to hold back on Palestinian elections partly to avoid redeploying its forces from Palestinian population centers in the territories.

"One of Israel's main motives for delaying the Palestinian elections is to evade the agreement on withdrawing the Israeli army from towns and villages and population centers on the West Bank and redeploying them," Arafat said in an interview published in the London-based *Asharq al-Awsat*.

"Our agreement with Israel included very important things on Jerusalem, including having the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem take part in the coming election. This may be what is making the Israelis try to procrastinate on these elections and delay them as much as possible," Arafat added.

It is unlikely that Palestinian elections can be held by November 1 since the powers and responsibilities of the self-rule council have yet to be hammered out, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told reporters at the Foreign Ministry yesterday.

When asked about the idea of November 1 elections, Peres said: "I am very much in doubt. In order to have agreed elections, we have to agree about the size, scope and authority of the body to be elected."

At the same time, Peres was adamant that elections should not be delayed indefinitely since Israel has committed itself to Palestinian balloting in the Oslo accords.

Peres would only say that different places in the territories have their unique problems and should not be lumped in one basket.

There were reports yesterday that Arafat was going to ask for a meeting with Rabin next week.

Aides to the prime minister said last night no such request had been made.



A police officer soon to leave for Haiti checks the contents of his kitbag yesterday. (Grizitsky/Israel Sun)

Hefetz briefs officers going on Haiti mission

RAINE MARCUS

THIRTY POLICE officers, from the rank of inspector and up, checked their kitbags and pistols yesterday in preparation for their trip next week to Haiti as part of a multinational observer force.

This is the first time the Israel Police has been asked to act as a peacekeeping force, and Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz emphasized that the delegation would not be required to mediate conflicts between Haitian forces and citizens.

"Your duty will to supervise the police and law there, not to disperse demonstrations," he told the policemen yesterday who arrived at the Beit Dagan Border Police base for a briefing, vaccinations and to pick up equipment.

"The situation is volatile and you will have to represent Israel among a population of strangers. We cannot know what developments, including violent ones, may occur," Hefetz said.

The eyes and news media of the world will be focused on the Israeli force in Haiti, added Hefetz.

The delegation, headed by retired police commander Gabi Amir, will receive orders directly from the US army and will be required to report daily on the situation.

Initially, they will be armed only with police issue 9 mm. Jericho pistols and personal mace canisters, but have strict instructions only to use arms in life-threatening situations.

"It is not our duty to intervene physically in any confrontation, merely to supervise," said Hefetz. "We cannot rule out the possibility that our forces may run into difficult situations, but they do here, too, and instructions will be specific."

Officers, which include two women, volunteered for the mission and must speak English or French. Most are married with children and aged 35-45. They are expected to leave early next week for Puerto Rico, where they will be trained by the US army, before arriving in Haiti on October 1 for around two months.

Chief Superintendent Hilana Arad, the divorced mother of a 17-year-old son, said she had volunteered "because it seems like an experience and an adventure.

"It's also a humanitarian gesture and the first time we have been asked to participate in a multinational force," she said.

Chief Inspector Jaqueline Afbucher, married with three children, will act as the liaison officer between the delegation and the Americans.

Chief Inspector Yoram Dawon said he was not afraid of the mission.

"We are going as observers, not as fighters," he said as he checked his equipment. "My three kids are already asking when they can come and visit."

Court upholds Edri's remand

LT. Oren Edri, a suspected member of a Jewish terror cell, will remain in custody until the end of legal proceedings against him, the Military Appeals Court decided yesterday. Edri's lawyer, Zion Amir, had appealed the decision of the Central Command Court president to remand him until the end of his trial.

Amir argued during the lengthy hearing Wednesday night that the time Edri will serve until trial might be more than any punishment he will receive. He called the ruling a "slap in the face which [Edri] does not deserve." (Itim)

CAVE

(Continued from Page One)

rity reasons.

The area was declared a closed military zone on grounds a terrorist carrying a grenade had been seen there, and an extensive search was being carried out to locate him.

But the closure was declared after dozens of busloads of people from throughout the country were already in the area. Settlement leaders called on their supporters to ignore the closure and go by foot to the Machpela Cave.

Soldiers exchanged blows with the protesters as they unsuccessfully tried to maintain the closure. Many of the protesters used back roads to enter the area.

Hamas activists freed by Arafat

PLO leader Yasser Arafat yesterday released three Hamas activists involved in a clash with security agents last week, after meeting a day earlier with leading Hamas activists, Palestinian sources said.

The three included Mohammed Abu-Shamaleh, who was incorrectly reported to have died from wounds incurred when Preventive Security Service agents shot at his car when he tried to drive away from a roadblock in Rafiah last Saturday.

A policeman killed in the shootout was believed shot by the security agents and not the Hamas activists.

The meeting with Hamas activists Mahmoud Zahar and Ismail Haniye to discuss ways of avoiding such clashes may lead to a joint declaration soon, sources close to Hamas said. *Jon Immanuel*

CORRECTIONS

The photo on yesterday's What's On page is of oboist Ori Meiraz, who will be performing tomorrow evening at Tabgha Church on the Kinneret in a program entitled Concerto Plus. The concert, which starts at 8:30 p.m., is part of the Bach Here & Now music festival.

Israel's credentials at the UN have been challenged by the Arab bloc since 1982, and not as published in Wednesday's paper.

Boy's fall surprises coffee-drinker in mall

A WOMAN got more than she bargained for with her coffee at the Canion Ashdod shopping mall yesterday afternoon – a 10-year-old boy who landed on her after he fell from the mall's second floor.

The boy suffered a head injury and was taken to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer. The woman was only mildly hurt. (Itim)

Taxes and elections – PA's troubles

BACKGROUND

JON IMMANUEL

THE Palestinian Authority has given a new twist to the credo, "no taxation without representation:" It has no tax system and no elected representation – and the absence of both is threatening its stability.

The Palestinians blame Israel. Israel says it is a self-inflicted wound.

This morning, a month after the Palestinian tax department outside Gaza and Jericho was supposed to be up and running, former Civil Administration tax department employees are invited to attend an initial meeting in Ramallah with PA Deputy Finance Minister Atef Alawneh, according to *Al-Kuds*.

Saeb Erekat, the PA minister coordinating elections, conceded yesterday that the early November election date set by the PA only last week is no longer feasible. In fact, negotiations with Israel concerning elections have not yet begun.

The absence of a tax system has blocked the handover of four of the five Civil Administration departments outside Gaza and Jericho. In keeping with Israel's policy of taking one step at a time rather than parallel steps, the delay in one sphere holds back progress toward the next step, elections.

Ziad Abu Zayyad, a former multilateral talks negotiator, objected to this approach at a Wednesday meeting marking a year since Oslo. He called for "parallel, not successive talks." News reports yesterday said this very issue divides Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who favors parallel talks, from Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. But Peres denied this on Israel radio.

Because a tax system is unpopular and depends on the Palestinians alone, it is not an issue over which Yasser Arafat can galvanize Palestinian opinion. But the delay in elections has become the issue around which the PA can question Israel's sincerity in implementing the peace accords.

In Israel's mind, government and taxes or some other funding are inseparable. Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothschild, the government coordinator in the territories, who leads talks on both funding and elections, is considered a supporter of Rabin's step-by-step approach. He says that "authority cannot be transferred without assured funding, of which taxation must be a part."

Samir Huleileh, a senior economist in the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR), says Israel's demands for sufficient funding are an excuse. "The PLO has enough money. It has not been administering Gaza on donors' money alone," he says.

Palestinian politicians consider the financial issue irrelevant. The real issue is Arafat's need to legitimize the Palestinian Authority, which cannot be taken for granted. Hamas is always a threat in the background.

At the moment, even though taxation is nonexistent, smuggling from Egypt to Gaza is rampant, forcing down local prices. In the past two weeks, Palestinian police have discovered five tunnels under the border near Rafiah and sealed them, but if this increases prices, the benefits of imposing the law may be shortlived.

Three hurt on roads

Two children and an adult were injured in two separate accidents in Eilat yesterday.

A 5-year-old boy was hit by a commercial vehicle while crossing the street at a crosswalk with his father. He was hospitalized with moderate injuries.

An adult and a 7-year-old boy suffered light injuries when two cars collided. (Itim)

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ten of spades, queen of hearts, king of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 6, 11, 30, 44, 47, and 48, and the additional number was 28.

In last night's weekly Pavis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 208131 won NIS 1 million, while ticket 253718 was good for the Honda automobile.

Tickets numbered 520353, 508720, 457799, 697943, 698667, 245315, 466422, 528345, 178104, 658693, 084022, 599358, 546087, 859908, 382698, 001450, 087071, 163232, 665497, 435668, 000206, 052696, 348580, 644684, 850858, and 855366 all win NIS 5,000.

Those holding tickets ending in 78702, 49289, 35039, 28287, 93638, 53180, 17194, 21867, 54046, 73331, 62419, 33059, 08979, 22432, 88391, 09390, 89680, 66206, and 44395 won NIS 1,000, while those holding tickets ending in 437, 839, 962, and 421 won NIS 100, in 72, 23, 50, and 39 NIS 20, in 77, 23, 61, 59, 44, 96, and 41 NIS 10, and in 4, NIS 7.

Christie's Inaugural Auction in Israel

25 September 1994



Marc Chagall (1887-1985), "Jeune mariée aux roses" (Detail), gouache, pastel and coloured wax crayons over pencil on paper. 24 x 20 in. (61 x 51 cm.). Estimate: $250,000-350,000.

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10:30 a.m. — *Overview of Tanach*, Rabbi Dr. Gold

At the Na'amat Mo'adon, 10 Sholem Aleichem St.
Mondays 7:45 p.m. — *Parshat Hashavua*, Dr. Aviva Gotleib Zornberg
Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. — *Parshat Hashavua* Rabbi Dr. Gold
10:30 a.m. — *Studies in Jewish Thought*, Rabbi Dr. Lopes Cardozo, (begins November 8)
Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. — *Parshat Hashavua*, Dr. Zornberg
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At Congregation Zichron Yoseph, 10 Agassi St., Har Nof
Sundays 9:00 a.m. — *Studies in Midrash*, Simi Peters
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Tuesdays 9:15 a.m. — *Tehillim: The Pillar of Prayer, Esther Kitov*
10:30 a.m. — *Women in Tanach*, Esther Kitov
Wednesdays 8:00 p.m. — *Parshat Hashavua*, Rabbi Dr. Gold
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Henry Crown Hall, the Jerusalem Theater,
Saturday 24 September 1994 at 8:30 p.m.
Tickets from the Jerusalem Theater box office.

Palestinian Baptist slams Islam

HAIM SHAPIRO

SINCE the International Christian Embassy, which represents fervent supporters of Israel, is usually viewed as anathema by Palestinian Christians, it seems unlikely that any Palestinians would appear at one of its events, but yesterday a Baptist from Beit Sahour did just that.

At a seminar entitled "Arab Believers Share" at the embassy's Feast of Tabernacles gathering, he told the audience of mostly Western Christians that Moslems are human beings, but Islam is a satanic religion.

Later, when asked about his willingness to be associated with the International Christian Embassy, he asked that his name not be used. "I have to live with these people," he said.

He said that while a student at Bir Zeit University, he had been active in anti-Israel activities, which resulted in his being sentenced to two years' imprisonment. This, in turn, made it impossible for him to get a job as a public school teacher, but he was offered a job in a Christian school in Bethlehem, on condition that he participate in, and occasionally lead, a daily prayer service.

"At the time, I was an active member of the Palestinian Communist Party," he said, explaining his hesitancy to carry out such a task, despite his Christian background.

Telling of his conversion to evangelical Christianity, he said that for the past five years he has been involved in missionary work among Moslems. Another important part of his work, he said, is in publishing material about Islam for Western Christians. Although he praised Moslems for their piety, he rejected the view that Islam is a moral religion.

"When a Moslem becomes faithful and religious, he becomes a killer," he said.

Asked about the fact that Palestinian Christians have been outspoken in their criticism of the Christian Embassy and insist that it does not represent local Christianity, he admitted that it is difficult to reconcile a belief in the promise of an everlasting inheritance to Israel and Arab culture.

"We do have an identity crisis. We are human," he said.

He thinks his family is of Jewish origin, and thus could also share in the divine promise to Israel. He also said he felt it is necessary for local Arab believers to be in contact with the Christian Embassy, so that its people are made aware that Arabs also have rights in the land.

"If it is God's will for the Jews to return and to rule, we can't resist, but I don't want them to come and take my home and kick me out," he said.



Leonard Shaykin (left) speaks at the dedication of the Neveh Channah school on the Ohr Rivka Campus, named in honor of his daughter Rebecca, as Gush Etzion regional council head Shilo Gal looks on. (Harari)

Two Israeli Arabs held for attempt to kidnap solider and steal rifle

DAVID RUDGE

TWO Israeli Arabs were arrested in the Galilee yesterday on suspicion of trying to kidnap a soldier and steal his rifle.

The suspects, both in their mid-twenties, are from Sakhnin in the Beit Netufa region of Galilee, and are to be brought to Acre Magistrate's Court today for a remand hearing.

Police said one of the suspects had admitted that he had attacked the soldier and tried to steal his gun. The incident itself occurred late on Wednesday night when a Beduin soldier from Shfaram was hitching a ride along the main road outside the town.

A car stopped for the soldier and started to take him in the direction of Nazareth. He sat in the front seat because there was a man lying down in the back.

The driver told the soldier that the man lying in the back was ill and was being taken to Poriah Hospital near Tiberias.

Police said that when the car reached the Hamovil junction, the "ill" man suddenly started to hit the 22-year-old soldier with a stone wrapped in a towel.

The soldier fought back and managed to load and cock his rifle and fire several shots while the vehicle was stopped near the junction. This apparently scared the driver and the passenger, who abandoned the vehicle and ran away.

The shots alerted police on mobile patrol in the area and searches were launched for the attackers. Police examined the car and traced the owner, from another village in the Galilee who had sold it the day before to a Sakhnin resident.

Police went to the new owner's home and later arrested two Sakhnin residents in connection with the kidnap attempt. The attack on the soldier is believed to have been nationalistically-motivated, although police said they had not ruled out the possibility of it being criminally-motivated.

New school for caravan girls at Kfar Etzion

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE Neveh Channah religious girls' high school was dedicated yesterday at the new Ohr Rivka Campus opposite Alon Shvut in Gush Etzion.

The school will provide modern facilities for the 280 pupils who for the past 11 years have been studying in caravans at Kibbutz Kfar Etzion. It was designed by architect Moshe Zarchi.

Also to be located on the campus is Midreshet Lindenbaum Women's College, as well as ten other buidings which will be constructed in the next few years. The complex will likewise contain an auditorium, library and housing for the students, Leonard Shaykin, chairman of the board of Ohr Rivka, said yesterday.

A poignant story lies behind Shaykin's deep invovlement in Ohr Rivka. As a baby, Rebecca - now nine years old and happily studying at her New York elementary school - was struck by a serious form of childhood cancer.

"The doctors believed she would not make it," Shaykin said yesterday. When she made a miraculous recovery, Shaykin, who came from a traditional background, contacted his former rabbi, Riskin, with the idea of setting up Ohr Rivka.

Over the years, Shaykin, former owner of *The Chicago Sun-Times*, became more observant and is intricately involved with the project.

The facilities provide both secular and Torah education for highschool students and young women, with the emphasis on excellence in all fields, Shaykin said.

The college grants a Bachelor's degree in Education and includes National Service for the students. A Women Advocates Institute prepares lawyers to serve in Rabbinic courts.

Ohr Rivka, named in honor of Shaykin's daughter, Rebecca, was founded by Rabbi Shlomo Riskin in 1986 as the women's counterpart of the Ohr Torah institutions for men. More than 700 students currently study at Ohr Rivka schools.

Would-be taxi owner wins case over counting suspended driving time

EVELYN GORDON

A FEW months without a driving license due to traffic violations can be counted as part of the six years of experience needed to own a taxi, the Supreme Court said yesterday, contradicting an earlier ruling.

Daniel Yisraeli had applied for a license to own a taxi, but was turned down for lacking the necessary six years of experience as a salaried driver for a cab company. While Yisraeli had worked as a driver between 1980 and 1986, his driver's license had been suspended twice for two-month intervals during this period – once for running a red light, and once for speeding.

The supervisor of traffic ruled that these intervals could not be counted, and that Yisraeli thus lacked three months and 18 days of the necessary experience. However, the Jerusalem District Court ruled in Yisraeli's favor when he protested the decision, so the supervisor of traffic appealed to the Supreme Court.

Justices Mishael Cheshin and Meir Shamgar, with Eliezer Goldberg dissenting, said no one ever drives every day for a full six years: Drivers get sick, take vacations, do reserve duty, etc. Time off from one's job due to a suspended license is no different from any of these, if the absence is not for too long a time, they said.

Furthermore, Cheshin said, a different clause of the law prevents someone from owning a taxi if he has been convicted of certain offenses, so there is no reason to introduce punishment for traffic violations into this clause as well.

Goldberg, in his dissenting opinion, said the Supreme Court had overturned itself once on this subject already, and that it is to no one's benefit for it to do so again, thereby creating uncertainty about the law. In any case, he said, it is irrational to consider a man to have been acquiring driving experience during a time when he legally could not drive – especially since this would contradict the message the courts send by ordering the license suspended in the first place.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Driver gets 30 months for passenger's death

An Umm el-Fahm man convicted of manslaughter for negligence in the death of a passenger in his car was sentenced to 30 months in prison by the Haifa District Court yesterday.

"The wave of fatal accidents on the country's roads necessitates the imposition of punishments which will deter others," Judge Micha Lidenstrauss said in his ruling.

In August 1990, Halad Said Ajabria, 25, illegally passed a car and crashed head-on into another vehicle. As a result, a female passenger was killed and four others were injured. The court also revoked his license for 12 years. *Itim*

British Jews win approval for eruv

Britain's largest Jewish community won permission on Wednesday to set up the country's first *eruv*, a symbolic extension of the home which would allows Orthodox Jews to carry objects and to do other daily routines on Shabbat.

"The Secretary of State for Environment John Gummer has accepted the recommendation by a planning inspector that the *eruv* be allowed," a government spokesman said. On two previous occasions Barnet council in north London had rejected plans for the eruv.

The council vetoed the plan last year on environmental grounds saying the symbolic domain of about 15 square km would entail erecting 85 poles linked by wire to complete boundaries already marked by a road and an underground railway line.

The *eruv* will cover Golders Green, Hendon and Hampstead Garden Suburb in north London. *Reuter*

Drug bust at Beit Dagan

Police have confiscated 80 kg. of cocaine and 700 grams of hashish which was hidden in Beit Dagan. A suspected drug dealer in the town and a customer, a Jerusalem resident, have been arrested. *Itim*

Big bird release today in SPNI happening

Under the slogan "Born Free," the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel is releasing wild birds at a massive ornithological happening tomorrow. Most of the birds were injured while migrating and have been nursed back to health at SPNI Raptor Centers around the country.

The event, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., will take place at Kochav Yair. Apart from being able to watch the birds take wing, the public is invited to other related activities, many aimed specifically at children. The entrance fee of NIS 20 per vehicle will be donated to the protection of wild birds.

Police hunt GSS impostor

POLICE are searching for a man from the center of the country who has been using forged ID in the name of Meir Zeindorf to pass himself off as a General Security Service agent.

He has used these documents to gain entry to numerous police stations and IDF bases throughout the country over the past several months.

On Saturday, an IDF officer and a border policeman lodged a formal complaint against the man, in his early 20s, with police. He had given them a ride in his rented car, and during the course of the journey, they became suspicious that he was not who he said he was. They gave police the car's license number.

Investigators determined that the man had reported the car stolen, then put police license plates on it. By means of a tip, they traced the car to Yokne'am yesterday. It turned out that a local woman was driving it so she could return to the imposter various items he had left at her apartment.

The police then discovered that, using another false ID, the man had passed himself off to her as a Border Police officer and sometimes stayed at her home.

During the investigation, three men were arrested on suspicion of assisting the imposter, but it turned out they had also fallen victim to him. One of them, believing he was a GSS agent, had even lent him several thousand shekels, after he promised to repay it shortly. (Itim)

Hunt continues for missing boy

A FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD boy has been missing since Monday morning from his home in the Nahal Beka caravan site in Beersheba.

Daniel Benyagoyev immigrated from the Caucasus region two years ago and was studying at a military school in Beersheba. His mother said he left their home Monday morning and nothing has been heard from him since then.

The police have asked the public for help in finding Benyangoyev. He is described as 1.70 meters tall, thin, dark-skinned, with short black hair and was wearing an army uniform and black army boots. He speaks Russian and a little bit of Hebrew. (Itim)

Industrialist brought here to face charges

BILL HUTMAN

INDUSTRIALIST Rubi Assa, who left the country when he faced criminal charges two years ago, last night was brought back here in handcuffs.

Assa was turned over to Israel by Switzerland, where was held for several months on allegations of swindling Swiss banks. He was also wanted in England.

The Turkish-born businessman is slated to be remanded this morning in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court. The Police Fraud Division is handling the investigation.

Assa allegedly cheated banks and credit card companies here and abroad out of millions of dollars, after an iron-importing deal he put together went bad. He fled to the Far East in 1992, where he reportedly lived until he was arrested on a trip to Europe earlier this year.

Nursing schools in same districts to be unified

JUDY SIEGEL

NURSING schools in the same area are to be unified as part of a Health Ministry efficiency program.

Among the first nursing schools to shut down will be the one attached to Rehovot's Kaplan Hospital, whose students will be sent to the nursing school at Tzrifin's government hospital, Assaf Harofeh.

The plan was disclosed yesterday but by Kupat Holim Clalit, which owns Kaplan Hospital. Spokesman David Tagar said the plan to unify the two nursing schools was reached "by agreement" between the Histadrut health fund and the ministry. The new school year, which was to begin at Kaplan's nursing school on October 30, will not open. Only 38 nursing students registered, and these will go to Assaf Harofeh, saving Clalit NIS 1.5 million a year.

Tagar said there are also negotiations to unify the nursing schools of Haifa's Rambam Hospital (a government institution) and Carmel Hospital (which is owned by Clalit). This would leave Clalit with only four nursing schools.

The Clalit spokesman added that management regards it as obligatory for the health fund to reduce operating expenses, and that unifying nursing schools is a logical step towards this aim. He said there are some 20 nursing schools in the country.

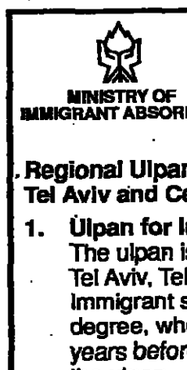
The unification plan reportedly includes only nursing schools at some Clalit and government hospitals, and not those affiliated with voluntary hospitals such as Hadassah and Shaare Zedek in Jerusalem.

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Policing Haiti

ISRAEL'S contingent to the international police force in Haiti will not have an easy task if the events of this week are any indication. The scenes of Haitian policemen viciously clubbing pro-democracy demonstrators show only too clearly that Haiti's ills have not disappeared with the arrival of American troops on the island.

Although the 30-strong delegation, which leaves next week, will be in Haiti only as observers and not as part of an active law-enforcement force, there is always the danger of its becoming caught up in the violence which seems endemic in this Caribbean country. It is hard to believe that Israeli officers will be able to stand back and merely observe scenes of brutality without attempting to set matters aright.

Some supporters of the move to send Israeli men – and two women – to serve with the force say the delegation proves Israel's integration into the international community. This is stretching things too far – there are still, for example, numerous countries which refuse to have diplomatic ties with Israel and those that do, in the main keep their embassies in Tel Aviv, – although it is true that only a year ago it would have been inconceivable for Israeli and Jordanian police officers to together join a multinational effort to restore democracy and law and order in some faraway trouble spot.

Putting aside fears for the physical safety of the team members, the worrisome aspect of the decision to dispatch the delegation – which yesterday received its final briefing from Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz – is that there has been little real discussion of whether Israel should send its citizens on such missions.

It is not as if Israel's police and security forces are underemployed at home. Despite all the noise surrounding the talks with Syria, a small war of attrition is being played out in Lebanon. The discussions on elections for a Palestinian administration are behind schedule for the simple reason that the Palestinians have not yet showed themselves capable of keeping their commitment to stop terror.

With Israel still facing such pressures, it seems almost profligate to send 30 police officers halfway around the world to a country many Israelis, even today, would find difficult to place on a map. When it comes to humanitarian aid, Israel is never slow to act, as the establishment of an IDF field hospital to aid Rwandan refugees proved. Policing Haiti, however, does not fall in the same category.

Of course, once the US requested Israel's presence among the 20 nations making up the force, there was little the government could say. Israel's indebtedness to the US is not a matter of debate, but its future role in such forces should be an issue for proper discussion and not just a small item on a single cabinet meeting's agenda.

Dangerous division

WHEN South Africa became a democracy, some feared instability during the fragile consolidation period, citing possible black-white violence engineered by diehard former apartheid supporters. However, as before the elections, the most serious danger in the country remains tribal, and the focus for unrest remains the Zulu community and the troubled district of KwaZulu-Natal. This has become clear with the row that exploded this week between the traditional king of the Zulus and the leadership of their political party Inkatha.

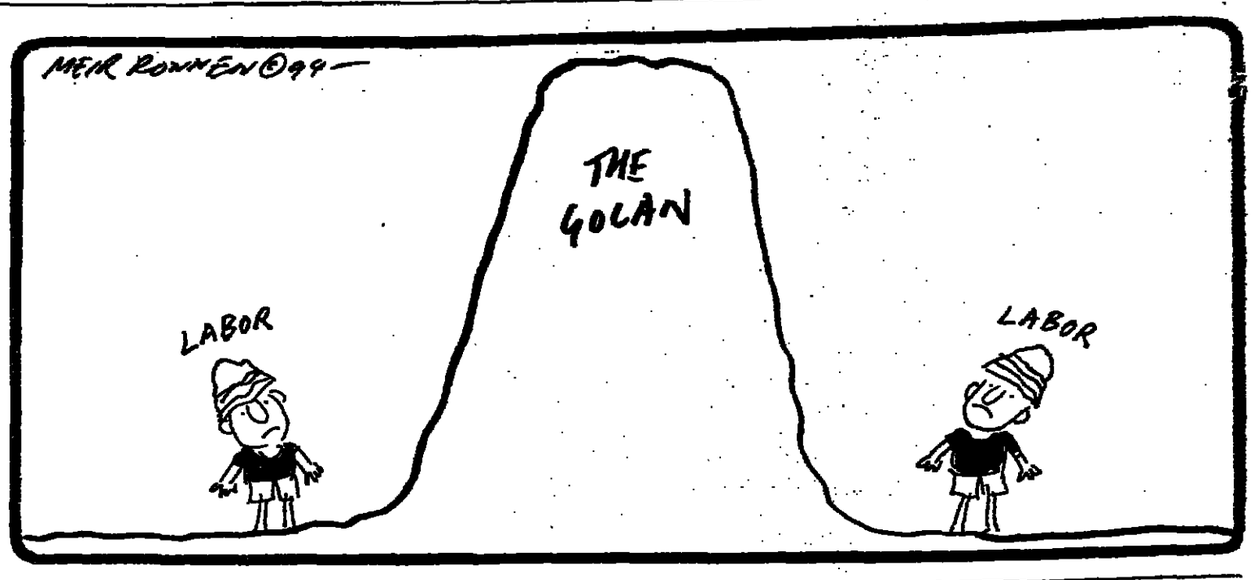
The fight between Inkatha Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and his nephew, King Goodwill Zwelithini, has jumped from local obscurity to a worrying confrontation over the celebration this weekend of Shaka Day, the premier Zulu holiday marking the founding of the Zulu nation by the 19th century warrior, King Shaka. If the conflict was a mere family dispute, it would be manageable, but behind the intra-Zulu strife is a latent struggle for influence between Inkatha and President Nelson Mandela's ANC.

This appeared to have been resolved before the spring elections. Inkatha was persuaded to end its election boycott and successfully joined all of the new nation's parties to produce an internationally-acclaimed peaceful transfer of power from apartheid to multi-party democracy. However, it was fairly obvious that, rather than being consigned to history's garbage can, KwaZulu-Natal's troubles were being brushed under the electoral carpet.

This week's re-emergence of those troubles began innocuously enough with a row over the king's invitation to President Mandela to Shaka Day – a seemingly routine courtesy. Buthelezi took offense at not being consulted and accused the king of politicizing the royal family. His followers then enraged the king by invading his residence while he was meeting Mandela and Buthelezi. Mandela said he would avoid Shaka Day to defuse tension but the king promptly canceled the celebrations and said he was cutting all ties with Buthelezi.

This means that South Africa's nine million Zulus are again on the road to a dangerous polarization. It has also made Buthelezi's accusation about politicizing the Zulu monarch a self-fulfilling prophecy. It is clear King Godwill and Mandela have moved closer together in an attempt to isolate the troublesome but powerful Buthelezi. Many Inkatha followers, remembering the pre-election strife between the ANC and Inkatha that left 10,000 dead, will see the king's move out of respected royal aloofness as a betrayal. Other Zulus will find it impossible to abandon traditional loyalty to the tribal throne.

The situation is indeed complex, but the finger of blame must be pointed at Buthelezi. He has consistently been the most awkward and troublesome force in the post-apartheid era. His decision to call his supporters out in defiance of the king to celebrate Shaka Day can only exacerbate tensions. The Zulu spat has the potential to wreck Mandela's careful construction of a forgiving, united, forward-looking country – an image so far accepted and backed by the foreign investors essential to South Africa. It is time for Buthelezi to stop his power games before he acquires the image of just another African leader whose self-interests outreach those of the rest of the country, and even those of his own Zulus.



Revelations of Mordechai Gur

MOSHE ZAK

DEPUTY Defense Minister Mordechai Gur dropped a highly significant hint to the Knesset during its debate on the Golan last week – though it attracted little attention, and one had to "read between the lines." His hint was that Israel's chief motivation in agreeing to a withdrawal was the hope of acquiring modern weapons systems from the US.

Added Gur: "I don't want us to reach a situation where, in balancing our national strategy, we have to decide between such weapons systems... and part of the Golan Heights." Nevertheless, it would appear that, after some tribulation, he has already chosen his option.

The former chief of staff surely knows what military systems could serve as a substitute for retaining the Golan Heights, and the nature of the technological know-how being discussed with the Americans. But it's hard to believe Israel hasn't already received some concrete American promises in this context.

American administration officials are very probably hoping to supply Israel with defense systems, to soothe it over the loss of a deterrent, which is what the Golan now represents. But one oughtn't to attach too much weight to friendly expressions of willingness on this, no matter how sincere the American officials involved may be. A great many difficulties lie along the way.

First to be considered is the resistance of Syria and Egypt to widening the qualitative gap between themselves and Israel. Its peace treaty with Israel notwithstanding, Egypt is investing a great deal of effort in the international arena aimed at denying Israel this edge. And as for Syria, it has made sure, in indirect talks with the US, to stress its demand that America be evenhanded in its supply of weapons to Israel and Syria.

It is hard to accept that Syria, trying to obtain sophisticated weaponry from the US in the wake of an Israeli withdrawal, will quietly go along with a US commitment to widen the qualitative gap between itself and Israel. And Hafez Assad has already received promises from two American presidents that Washington will support an Israeli withdrawal from the whole Golan.

It's hard to believe the general supports quitting the entire Golan

Assad is certain that the moment real negotiations begin, the Americans will lose no time in calling in that debit note regarding the extent of withdrawal, and so he isn't in any hurry to specify the terms of peace with Israel.

"Peace posters" in the streets of Damascus don't spell out "Peace with Israel." What Syria is aiming for is peace with the US. And Assad isn't prepared to acquiesce in significant military compensation to Israel from the US in return for Israel's withdrawing from the Golan.

THE MODERN weapons systems Israel hopes to receive would certainly be capable of deterring any Syrian military adventure. But they wouldn't suffice to answer another Israel concern, one which has become overshadowed by military considerations: the issue of water.

This problem preceded the Six Day War and the IDF's presence on the Golan. In the mid-1960s, Syria tried to divert the waters of the Jordan, so Israel couldn't use them. The June 9, 1967, cabinet decision on ordering the IDF to advance to the Golan Heights thus explicitly makes reference to the control of water sources. And the government's June 19 decision on the conditions of peace with Syria stresses the "non-obstruction of the flow of water from the Yarmuk and Jordan River sources."

Syria has been able to – and still can – waste large quantities of water from the Yarmuk River to stop it reaching Jordan, even though the kingdom is in great need of it and the two countries agreed to set up the "Unity Dam."

Modern weapons systems cannot stop efforts to deny Israel water, and so it is far preferable for Israel to have access to the water sources on the Golan.

Gur let drop another hint in his Knesset speech when he referred to an argument he had had with Egyptian General Mohammed Ali Fahmi in the late 1970s about retaining Israeli airfields in Sinai. Fahmi had said: "Look, Gur, maybe [Anwar] Sadat has decided to move in your direction; but then an open wound will remain. In eight years, a new leadership will arise in Egypt, one which will not know the fear of war, and will say: 'What is this? Who allowed it?' Never leave an open wound, if you can help it."

Gur didn't trouble to point out the moral here. But he could have been understood to be recommending total withdrawal from the Golan, leaving no "open wound" to cause cries for a changed policy in Damascus later.

This hasn't been Gur's stand on the Golan up till now. It is difficult to believe that he is really recommending total withdrawal. Perhaps his reference to that encounter with Gen. Fahmi was intended to draw attention to the fact that, for the Syrians, an "open wound" might not be just a few kilometers on the Golan Heights, but also unfulfilled Arab dreams in Jerusalem.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

Power of the poor on election day

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

THERE is a social side to the Golan issue. That is why Rabin's inconsistency will affect the results of the next elections far less than is now generally supposed.

This is, first of all, because Rabin can determine the timing of potentially damaging political moves. But even more, it is because Rabin has a strong case, which is working its way into the awareness of the public.

His position is based on the premise that the missile threat, posed not only, or even primarily, by Syria, is the major security challenge to Israel in the coming years. Only massive American support, conditioned on a Golan settlement, the argument goes, can provide the umbrella needed to protect Israel's urban centers, whose vulnerability to missile attack was demonstrated in the Gulf War.

Leaving aside the question of whether this argument is strategically sound, it has unquestionable political merit, appealing to the interests of the urban electorate. The next elections may be conducted in an atmosphere politically hotter than anything this country has seen since brimstone went out of fashion. However, the results will depend on how the country's urban masses view their own best interests.

That is why Labor's image on social issues is so critical. The election results will largely turn on the vote in the poorer urban neighborhoods and among the largely unabsorbed mass of new immigrants. Both of these target publics are up for grabs. Neither is highly organized. Neither is strongly wedded to any political ideology.

In domestic matters, the outstanding feature of Rabin's social program is that, in effect, he has none. Stimulating economic development, while controlling inflationary pressures, has been the major thrust of government policy.

Labor is up in the air on social issues – and that could bring the party down

What happens to those left behind? Statistics show a widening income gap, far greater than that in the advanced industrial economies with which we like to compare ourselves, greater even than in some of the underdeveloped nations of the Third World.

WHAT DO all those new superhighway interchanges mean for those who aren't going anywhere? Part of the problem is that, from the political point of view, the disadvantaged are largely invisible, a product of their lack of organization. Lacking the requisite manipulative skills, they aren't in line for the sort of bailout currently contemplated for the kibbutzim, for example, or the payoffs to Shas.

But they do have weight on election day, although even then their participation will fall below that of the organized groups that are part of the system.

The lack of central governmental planning and direction is undisputed. When it comes to national security issues and the peace process, there is no doubt who is in charge. On the social front, however, on which the future of the Labor Party may depend, the whole policy-making process seems largely up in the air.

David Ben-Gurion set a pattern: the prime minister's preoccupation with the major problems of war and peace. The tradition in Labor governments has been that economic and social decision-making are largely coordinated through the finance minister, a major party figure in his own right, enjoying the premier's unqualified backing.

But Avraham Shohat appears to lack the requisite political muscle. Even more, he seems to lack a clear sense of where he is going.

The attempt launched by Shimon Sheves, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, to make that office the fulcrum of home-front policy, never took off. Barring central direction, the major Labor ministers dealing with social issues often give the impression of each one being in business for himself.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer began his political career in the Tami Sephardi social protest movement – but housing remains, second only to employment, the chief cause of dissatisfaction among the underprivileged, veterans and newcomers alike.

Ora Namir, as minister of labor, has the unenviable role of responsibility without adequate power, a no-win trap only made worse by the passing of Histadrut control into non-Labor Party hands.

The new health minister, Dr. Ephraim Sneh, will have his major test in the implementation of the new national health law, with major problems waiting to be solved by administrative bylaws still in the drafting stage.

The socially disadvantaged will not remain politically inert. If Labor fails here, the danger is in the inevitable emergence of a socially oriented Peronist-style movement on the right.

The threat to Labor comes not from the Golan, but from the major urban centers of the nation.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONTROLLED LEAK

Sir, – Although the *Post* was duty-bound to report as news the "US source" about "18 Arab states ready for peace deals once Israel and Syria sign pact" (September 12), this is known in the trade as a controlled leak. Whether the Rabin government is solely responsible or merely a willing accomplice, the whole purpose of this leaked story is to influence the Israelis, take them off their guard and give away (not trade) 21 years of a secure quiet border with Syria. For what? Paper promises which have historically not been kept when the keeping was needed. A cold one-way pace *à la* Egypt?

Doesn't anyone in this government believe that before it should negotiate with Syria, the latter must stop its support of terrorism, withdraw from Lebanon, cease its anti-Jewish media outbursts, release every Syrian Jew without conditions, and compensate, yes compensate, all the families that suffered for 19 years from the shelling from the Golan on the Jews below, killing many and wounding more.

Why is the Rabin government so reluctant to ask the Israeli electorate if they favor withdrawal from the Golan? Answer: all polls show overwhelming opposition! It is now resorting to leaked placebos to fool the public. Soon it will be calling for US troops on the Golan. That is in the pipeline as its American agent, AIPAC, made clear in June when it lobbied against a US Defense Department study on that very subject.

Israelis should adopt the great American cry: Throw the rascals out!

LEON A. LAUTERBACH

Jerusalem (Yonkers, N.Y.).

THE LAW OF RETURN

Sir, – Uri Gordon's suggestion to change the Law of Return violates the whole purpose of Israel's existence. If there are people who claim to be Jews and who want to come to Israel and are not Jews, then the Israeli government should set guidelines as to who is a Jew and how to determine someone's Jewishness. After all, there are many Jews who are coming from Ethiopia and Russia who claim to be Jews but are not Jews. It is about time the Israeli government and the rabbinate sat down and decided how to determine who is a Jew.

But the Law of Return should not be changed. If there are 30 million people in India who claim to be Jews, then by all means check them, and if they are, they should come to Israel if they so wish. Is Israel not good enough to absorb Jews in distress if they are really that?

HESKEL M. HADDAD, M.D.

New York.

THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS

Sir, – One must admire the creative use the present government makes of what used to be called "the parliamentary process." After pretending that the electorate gave it a mandate for steps that are the exact opposite of the platform on which it campaigned, it now considers rewriting the platform retroactively (which it imagines will remove the embarrassment).

When members of its Knesset faction suggest that the doubtful majority is not enough to pass measures which may put this country in mortal danger, the government party threatens with unemployment and political death any member who votes for requiring a more meaningful majority – the Labor Party considers that "democracy" is adequately ensured by the decision of a majority of its central committee (representing a quarter of the membership of the Knesset). What is worse, this ploy works. Unexplained is why we need a Knesset at all, rather than merely a fax poll of the results of the respective central committees, which would save the cost of the perquisites of 120 robotic members.

STAN GOODMAN

Kiryat Tivon.

POSTSCRIPTS

MARLON BRANDO used to break his diet by having McDonald's employees toss hamburgers over the fence. He's so fat he nearly suffocated on his blubber while hanging upside down on an exercise machine.

The sad tales of the reclusive, 70-year-old actor are told in *Brando: The Biography* by Peter Manso.

Brando's weight-loss scheme included strapping himself in a rotating hoop frame for stretching exercises.

"He was hanging head down, and because of his weight the blubber started to roll forward, almost choking him," a former Brando aide said in the book. "He was coughing and muttering, unable to speak."

On bad days with his diet, Brando caved in to his yen for fast food. "He'd been paying employees from McDonald's... to come up on the sly and toss him stuff over the fence [of his house]," the aide said. "You'd find the mess in the morning. Several Big Macs, french fries – the whole thing."

ALASDAIR AND Vivienne Lennox must be afraid to try for a boy.

The first time around, the London couple had identical twin girls. Three years later they tried for a third child – and ended up with three more. Triplets. All girls.

To make matters even more unusual, the pregnancies were both spontaneous; Mrs. Lennox was not taking fertility drugs.

At least two of the triplets are identical. Doctors are carrying out tests to find out if the third is also identical.

Lennox has since scoured reference and text books to assess the chances of such births. So far, he hasn't found a similar occurrence.

The chances of having twins then triplets is one in 2.5 million. Girl twins and then girl triplets is around 20 million to 1, even if not identical.

"Why this has happened nobody knows," the proud father said. "There is no history of it in the family. But we are ecstatic."

Lennox has kept his sense of humor. "I think a vasectomy is now on the agenda," he said.

THREE DUCKS are at the center of a row in a Welsh village following moves by the local council to ban them from swimming on a duck pond.

The ducks belong to Chris Edwards, the postmaster in Penyfai, and occasionally waddle the few meters from his garden to the pond.

But their presence has infuriated some local conservationists who recently cleaned the pond and restored its wildlife. They welcome wild ducks but took exception to mere "farmyard" ducks swimming there.

The case has split Penyfai's 450 residents. The chairman of the village's conservationist group, Terry Dobbs, who helped clear the pond and objects to the ducks, resigned his post: "I'm not bitter, just disgusted," he said.

Dobbs pointed out that the ducks caused considerable damage to the pond, which recently won prizes when it was restored and refilled after years of neglect. "It is meant to be for frogs, toads and newts. If wild ducks land on it occasionally we wouldn't mind at all. But we don't want tame ducks."

"People feel it's just bureaucracy gone mad," Edwards said. "What good is a duck pond without ducks on it?"

And we thought we had problems.

ONE OF THE world's largest makers of men's underwear now admits that for the past 60 years it has been misinterpreting the male torso. As a result, a vital change has taken place in the shape of undies, promising more comfort for stouter men.

For years, portly men have suffered below the belt owing to a longstanding engineering miscalculation until researchers for Jockey, the menswear firm, discovered that the distance from the navel to the groin is almost constant in all men. Tailors had previously assumed the distance varied in proportion to a man's waist.

As a result, larger sizes of pants have been either too baggy around the crotch or too high up the belly.

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For Rabin – food for thought

YEHUDA LEVY

IN a country like ours, awash with news, it is easy to lose one's sense of proportion about the real importance of various events: Israeli policemen dispatched to Haiti; Israeli cars stolen by Palestinian Autonomy senior personnel; ceremonies and talks in Oslo and Washington – and (yet again) Shulamit Aloni's caustic tongue.

The average Israeli, watching and reading the media without knowing the inside stories of events, certainly finds it hard to determine which will be fateful for the state's future.

The hunger strike at Gamla by Golan residents is now in its 13th day. Even if it continues to the point where it stops being news, this is an event that will directly affect Israel's existence in the long term and the political fabric of the country in the short term.

After all, the argument isn't just about the nature of a settlement with the Syrians. It raises other questions:

● Is it moral to demand that Israel concede a defensive-strategic asset like the Golan – which constitutes 0.5 percent of Syria's land area – in return for a peace treaty, given the history of relations between the two countries?

● Does territory really no longer have any value in the missile age, as Yitzhak Rabin claims, echoed by Shlomo ("Chich") Lahat and Yanosh Ben-Gal? Or, perhaps, might hundreds of missiles not succeed in defeating Israel, while 12 armored Syrian divisions could – as generals no less outstanding than Yossi Peled, Yitzhak Hofi, Motti Hod, Amos Horev and Arik Sharon contend?

● And when we are lectured about compromise for the sake of peace, does the notion of compromise also embrace the other party – or does it mean that Israel gives, the Syrians take, and we start praying that everything will work out according to the agreement signed?

The Golan hunger strikers deserve the nation's gratitude

BESIDE THE many substantive and fateful questions, there are more immediate ones concerning our lives vis-à-vis the political and governmental framework.

There is the issue of the credibility and moral fiber of a governing party in the eyes of its voters – and even of some of its elected leaders – when it pursues a policy and its leaders make political declarations quite different from the platform on which it received its mandate.

We can – indeed must – also ask: What has changed in the international and regional arenas since the Labor Party crystallized its platform that would permit so extreme a departure from it?

After all, on the domestic scene, the only thing that is different, which voters didn't know at the time, is that Meretz has become the senior coalition partner.

It isn't clear what effect the hunger strike by Golan residents and their sympathizers will have on the government and on the way we conduct negotiations with the Syrians.

But one thing is already clear. By their brave stand, they might well force the government to give the nation a detailed accounting on the above questions.

And they could impel the people to settle accounts with the government, should it fail to do this.

For this, the nation owes the hunger strikers a debt of gratitude, even before their struggle is complete.

The writer is president and publisher of The Jerusalem Post.



But Haiti took Jews in

HERB KEINON

FOR me, growing up in Colorado, two countries outside my native US and later-to-be-adopted Israel held a special place: Holland and Haiti.

Holland because a Dutch woman hid and saved my mother during the Holocaust, and Haiti because that country gave her refuge immediately after the war.

The only way I could show my appreciation as a kid was to root furiously for Dutch speed-skaters in the Winter Olympics, and cheer loudly for the scarce Haitian boxer during the summer games.

But now, amid the debate over the wisdom and necessity of sending 30 Israeli policeman to Haiti, I can show my appreciation at least to that country by coming out full force behind the government's decision to dispatch an Israeli delegation to Port-au-Prince.

The Encyclopaedia Judaica, under its entry on Haiti, reads: "In the 1930s, new Jewish immigrants arrived from Germany, Austria, Poland, Romania and Hungary. Although the Haitian government has traditionally frowned on white immigration, asylum was granted to refugees. At the beginning of World War II, the newcomers numbered about 100; after the war, the Jewish population numbered about 35 to 40 families."

One of the people lucky enough to gain entry to that impoverished Caribbean land was my mother's aunt, who – along with my mother and another uncle who somehow found his way to England – was the only surviving member of what, before Hitler, had been a very large German Jewish family.

In the search for living relatives that ensued after the war, the aunt in Haiti was located, and my mother set sail for Port-au-Prince. As a result, in my home Haiti was always spoken of with fondness and gratitude.

THIS ALL played heavily on my mind this week, as I heard those arguing against Israeli involvement in the military force claim that Israel "has nothing to look for in Haiti," and that the Haitian conflict "is not our problem."

Maybe, but I'm eternally grateful that the Haitian government didn't adopt the same attitude in the 1930s and, claiming that the Jews weren't their problem, deny refuge to that trickle of refugees knocking on its doors.

An answer to those who claim a faraway conflict 'isn't this country's problem'

We can't, as a people, blame the world for abandoning us, then turn our heads away from those who seek our help. All the more so when those seeking our help once helped us.

Some argue that Israel cannot be expected to dispatch men to every country which, at one time or another and for a variety of reasons, helped a Jew in distress. Granted.

But we are not being asked to help every nation with Righteous Gentiles. Rather, we are being asked to help one specific country which helped some Jews escape the Holocaust.

If, as a nation, we can in some small way ease the suffering of the Haitians, why not jump at the opportunity? And few argue that ending the brutal dictatorship of Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras and replacing him with the democratically elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is not ultimately beneficial to the Haitian people.

There is a broader question here: Israel's involvement in the world. In the days when the UN considered us a pariah state, this was really not much of an issue, since our assistance was rarely requested by the various world bodies. But now that our international star is on the rise, we will undoubtedly be called upon to take part in international missions.

I realize that Israel is dispatching policeman to Haiti more because the US asked us to, and less because our government is seeking to repay one kindness with another, or trying to champion the forces of good in the world.

And I also realize that America's involvement in Haiti may have a little something to do with its interest in wanting to keep Miami from being flooded with destitute Haitians.

But the motives are irrelevant. What is relevant is that our police will be part of an American-orchestrated force to replace a regime that has brutalized its people.

Throw in that we will be helping a people who once helped us, and Israel has ample reason to join the international force, proudly.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post *editorial staff.*

After the arrest of Jews in Kiryat Arba

Scapegoats

ELYAKIM HA'ETZNI

ONE element essential to every western state was missing from Herzl's *Der Judenstaat*. Who would be "the Jew" – scapegoat – in the Jewish state?

But the problem was quickly solved. The settlers are our "Jews."

Is our education deficient? Are our roads jammed? Change the "national priorities." Take money away from the settlements!

Is criminality rampant? Blame the settlers, who have been outlaws ever since Sebastia. A few "settlers" are suspected of terror? Go after the roots –the preferential treatment they constantly enjoy. No law enforcement for *them!*

This "settler" feels compelled to write in defense of Jews under collective attack.

The Shamgar Inquiry Commission report devoted a special chapter to "Law Enforcement," quoting Zvi Katzover, who heads the Kiryat Arba Local Council, as follows:

"When people travel daily and get stoned, they ask... why are stones thrown from the very same house day after day and nothing is done about it? Is it conceivable... that stones could be thrown [repeatedly] from [a house in] Kiryat Arba with nobody from that house being interrogated?

We who live in Judea and Samaria have been pushed to the limit of our endurance

"We see discrimination... Had I, on my way here, shot in the air in the direction of somebody throwing a stone-block to kill me, I would have been arrested, interrogated and put on trial.

"While the army shows more and more restraint, the Arab... dares to throw stones from the middle of the street... in your face... and just stands there, smiling. Why? Because he knows you are forbidden to shoot. That the army has orders not to shoot.

"It's small wonder that some Jews say... we can't take any more. I prefer to do something which will awaken the army, and the government."

The report continues: "In just one month – February 1994 – there were, in Judea-Samaria, 2,206 cases of stone throwing, 58 firebombs, 8 shootings, one hand granade attack and four explosive charges. Disregard for law and order on the part of Jews in the area should be seen against this background, and not in isolation."

The chief of Staff, Ehud Barak, is also quoted, stating: "The increase in... infringements of the law by Israelis... [comes] mainly in the wake of grave attacks by Palestinian terrorists, and is also [the result of] a certain weakening in the perception of overall security, especially on the roads...."

The commission also quotes General Danny Yatom saying that "most of the Jewish community is totally disciplined, even under very difficult circumstances.... Disturbance of public order [has] almost always come about after Jews were murdered by terror acts...."

The commission sums up:

"The graver the phenomenon, the smaller the number of the settlers who take part. In protest demonstrations, naturally a larger number of settlers participate, while the hardcore violence can be attributed to violent fringe groups among them."

Characteristically, this even-handed treatment of the Jews was totally missing from media coverage of the commission's report.

TO COMPLETE the picture, here is some information based on 22 years of personal experience in and around Hebron.

Untold tens of thousands of dunams of state land have been stolen over the years by Arabs, who simply planted on them. Untold thousands of houses have been built illegally in the Arab sector.

Not so in the Jewish parts. Here, any attempt to put up even one caravan without an express government decision is an "illegal settlement," slated for brutal destruction, and our people are dispersed by hundreds of soldiers.

In Hebron, you can order any part of any car, and it will be "custom-stolen" for you in Israel within hours. Driving licenses, insurance policies, identity cards, permits, seals, the rubber stamps of any government office are forged in industrial quantities. The forgery of VAT booklets alone costs the treasury tens of millions of dollars annually.

The town of Yatta, south of Hebron, is one big market for illegal arms. You can even order a heavy machine gun. Beersheba, wedged between Palestinian-terrorist Gaza and the Hebron "Wild East" and surrounded by Beduin, is quickly turning into an island in a sea of utter lawlessness.

But not a whisper from the attorney-general, who doesn't sleep nights worrying about deficiencies in law enforcement against the "settlers." No Karp Report for the Arab jungle, no special directives, committees, police units, accelerated court procedures – to mention only a few of the measures being taken against the "settlers."

Back to Sebastia, this so-called prototype of Jewish settlement illegality. Sebastia was civil disobedience, not terror. Thousands flocked into a derelict Turkish railway station, their law-breaking was nothing more than temporary squatting, demonstrating without a license, disobedience of un-Jewish, un-Zionist, anti-national orders, calculated to keep the heart of the Land of Israel *Judenrein*.

What does the Israeli left have to say when it feels its moral precepts are threatened by a democratic government?

Amos Oz: "Facing the... exiling of Arabs:.. transfer... we shall not let you [do it]... even if we need to split the state and the army... Even if we need to bomb the bridges... The right must know that there are acts that will cause the disintegration of the state." ("On Democracy and Obedience.")

Yossi Sarid and Yair Tzaban: "The day on which the transfer order is given – a manifestly illegal order – will be the day of disobeying orders." (*Yediot Aharonot.*)

Nobody ever blamed the left for Aharon Cohen's spying for the Soviets, for Udi Aviv joining Arab terrorist organizations in Damascus and Michael Warshavsky and others joining similar organizations in Jerusalem. Nobody has blamed Peace Now for vandalism in Elazar, Efrat or Kedumim.

There was almost no enforcement of the law forbidding contact with terrorists, a law which was flouted by people like our current president, some of today's cabinet ministers, our current head of the Knesset Committee for Constitution, Legislation and the Judiciary.

After all, they aren't the scapegoats of "Brave New Israel."

The writer, a lawyer and former MK, is a resident of Kiryat Arba.

Far too lax

JON SIMONS

AMONG the details of the imprisonment and interrogation of the rightist extremists is one which indicates that much more could have been done to deter the terrorism of which these people are accused.

Eitan Kahalani, suspected of being a key member of the group, was due to appear in a Jerusalem court on September 13 on a charge of attacking a soldier by the Machpela Cave two years ago.

Kahalani wasn't accused of doing much – just a little fight with a soldier doing his job – but quite clearly, had a Palestinian done the same, it would not have taken two years for him to be brought to trial.

One of the key factors in the use of law as a deterrent is that justice be done reasonably swiftly.

Perhaps if Kahalani had been given the message two years ago that he couldn't get away with physical confrontation with soldiers, he wouldn't stand accused of terrorism today. The delay in bringing his case to trial is typical of many cases against settlers accused of various acts of hooliganism and violence over the years.

His case is untypical in that he was actually charged – which perhaps has something to do with it involving a crime against soldiers, rather than Palestinians.

Lawlessness among the settlers should have been nipped in the bud years ago

There have been many more attacks on Palestinians by settlers in which no charges were brought, and investigations have been inconclusive. There are even more cases in which Palestinians didn't even bother to file complaints, since to them, at least, it was clear many years before the Shamgar Commission of Inquiry that in the territories, there is one law for them and another for Israelis.

The leniency shown to the extremists among the settlers who have perpetrated acts of harassment and, on occasion, murder, through lax implementation of the law, has encouraged increasing lawlessness.

The acting head of the GSS believes that the pardons granted to members of the previous Jewish underground, responsible for terrorist attacks on Palestinians in the 1980s, is one incident among many factors contributing to a general attitude of forbearance to what he calls "ideological crime" in Israel.

Such lawlessness should have been nipped in the bud many years ago, he claims, during the illegal settlement of Sebastia, by the then prime minister, Rabin, and then state attorney, Shamgar. In his view, ideological crime of the right and left seriously undermines the rule of law which is essential to democracy, even more so than normal crime, because it challenges the very legitimacy of the law and the legislature. Yet, even members of the legislature have participated in such ideological crime, thereby reinforcing an Israeli tendency to disregard the law if the ends are right.

THE ACTING head of the GSS is right in his assessment that previous leniency has fostered current terrorism, but wrong in his view that this applies to all "ideological crime." There is no such thing as ideological crime, only crimes perpetrated for ideological reasons. Any healthy democracy must tolerate some breaking of the law in the form of nonviolent civil disobedience, the perpetrators of which wish to protest an injustice greater than illegality without causing any direct harm to others. In principle, these people must be prepared to accept their punishment; but it is precisely in such cases that leniency is deserved. Civil disobedience does not reflect disregard for the law, but a demand that the law be based on justice for all.

The settlers at Sebastia, the members of the former underground, and presumably those now accused of terrorism, all believe that right and justice are on their side, and thus that their lawlessness was or is justified. It is not and was not, because it violates the rights of others, taking their land, their liberty and their lives. It may appear to be justified in Israeli eyes because such lawlessness is not very different from the legal action of the occupying power, in particular as judged by the occupied. Respect for democratic law may have eroded over the years, but the main reason for that is not recurrent indulgence toward "ideological crime," unless the whole occupation is understood as one enormous ideological crime. The reason is that injustice has been done under the auspices of the law since the occupation began.

Yeshayahu Leibowitz's prophecy of 1967 that the occupation would corrupt Israeli society has been quoted in recent days when pointing out that some of the milder interrogation techniques the GSS has been using on Palestinians since 1967 are now being used on Jewish extremists. The corruption goes deeper than that: it leads even those who wish to uphold democracy to place obedience to the law above the demand for justice and respect for rights.

The writer teaches political science at the Hebrew University.

British Consulate-General
Jerusalem

On September 29, 1994, the Visa and Consular sections of the British Consulate General in East Jerusalem will be moving temporarily to the Consulate's West Jerusalem Office.

All applications for visas, passports and birth registration should therefore be made to the West Jerusalem Office from September 29 until further notice. There will be no facilities at all to deal with these matters in the Sheikh Jarrah office.

The address of the West Jerusalem Office is Tower House, Kikar Remez Jerusalem 93541. The telephone number is 02-717724. The Office is situated in the grounds of St Andrew's Church which is close to the Railway station. The public hours will be 08:00 - 12:00, Monday to Friday.

We apologise for those who need our services for any inconvenience this may cause. The reason is that we have to refurbish the main office. This should be completed by May 1995.

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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

A 6 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1994

Recession looms if package doesn't work

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

WHILE the so-called package deal being prepared by the Treasury will not do much to tackle inflation, it is definitely an improvement on the feeble proposals the cabinet managed to come up with last week.

That plan sets up a steering committee to oversee sub-committees to tackle house-price inflation. They will seek to do this by speeding up decision-making in yet further committees.

Other committees will study lowering tariffs and other barriers to imports, and hence lower prices for the consumer. The cabinet proposal is all talk and no action.

By contrast, there are certain attractions to the package deal, assuming it maintains its current form. The package would cut by over two percent the next cost-of-living wage adjustment, which partially compensates salaried employees for the erosion of their wages by inflation; workers would be compensated by a 1.5% cut in the health tax they will pay once the new National Health Insurance bill goes into effect; the National Insurance Institute worker's tax will also be reduced by 0.5%.

According to the Treasury, the package will be neutral in its effect on the budget, since the additional revenue raised by the tax on the stock market will be used to cover the shortfall in healthcare financing created by the reduction in healthcare tax receipts. The immediate flaw in the plan is the possibility that the receipts from the stock market tax may fall short of Treasury estimates, though at the moment it looks as though the government will be left with a surplus from the current year's budget.

The main thrust of the plan is to help the business sector, which now has double cause for complaint – a strong shekel (which makes imports cheaper and exports more expensive) and higher interest rates. The Treasury fears that if it cannot keep the business sector competitive, it will be faced with a worrying trade balance and hence a balance of payments problem, which will threaten significant devaluation of the shekel, dragging inflation in its wake.

The Treasury recognizes that aside from the Bank of Israel belatedly tightening the money supply, there is little that it can do really to fight inflation: it just does not have room to maneuver. It is therefore tweaking where it can and hoping that the housing market will sort itself out and that next time around it can do a better job of negotiating public sector wage agreements.

If inflation does not start to subside, there may be little choice but for the central bank to slam on the monetary brakes really hard, and the specter of the R word will return. Recession.

Two large foreign banks file suit against Union Bank, Bank Leumi

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TWO of the world's largest banks filed suits totaling NIS 72 million against Union Bank, Union Bank Trust Company, and Bank Leumi in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP) filed a NIS 34 million suit against Union Bank and Union Bank Trust company. The suit was filed by attorney Itamar Anaby a partner in the Barzel & Co. law firm.

In a separate suit related to similar actions, the New York branch of Dutch bank ABN - Amro filed a NIS 38m. suit against Union Bank, Union Bank Trust Company and Bank Leumi. The suit was filed by attorneys Menahem Sela and Ayel Rozevski of the Zadok Striks Sela and Co. law firm.

The suits concern events which occurred between 1989-92 and involve the US-based trading company Red Rock, the banks' customer which is currently in temporary liquidation. Several months ago, Red Rock's owner Menahem Pri Har was convicted on criminal charges in New York, Itim reported.

The plaintiffs claim the defendants helped Red Rock publish false accounts to help improve the company's liquidity ratio. BNP and ABN-Amro said their decisions to lend money to Red Rock were based on the accounts.

The plaintiffs accuse Union Bank of signing a fictitious loan agreement between Union Bank and the Red Rock company, intended to improve the company's financial accounts for December 30, 1990.

"The plaintiffs violated commercial banks' obligations and accepted rules of behavior. They helped Red Rock cheat the plaintiff and publish false and misleading accounts," said ABN-Amro in the suit.

According to the suits, Red Rock received a $12.3 million loan for 30 days from Union Bank. The loan was transferred to a subsidiary of Red Rock which transferred the money to Red Rock. Red Rock guaranteed to repay the loan to Union Bank and also promised not to withdraw the money from the account.

The plaintiffs claim Union Bank purposely misled the accountants responsible for preparing Red Rock's financial statements. The suits state Union Bank notified the accountants of Red Rock's credit, but, at the company's request, did not inform them of Red Rock's obligation to return the money to the bank. BNP and Amro claim Union Bank's actions helped Red Rock publish a liquidity ratio 12 times higher than the real figure.

ABN claims a similar agreement was executed in 1991 involving a loan of $17.25m. while Amro accuses Bank Leumi of a similar agreement in 1990.

BNP also accuses Union Bank and Union Bank Trust company of concealing information in connection with a steel transaction. The suit claims Red Rock received a BNP loan to help finance a steel trading transaction with Ram Industries, a company currently in liquidation.

According to BNP, consignment bills were used as guarantees for the loan. The bills were deposited with Union Bank's Trust company. In the suit, BNP emphasized the bills were deposited to avoid their release before payment.

BNP claims Union Bank violated its obligations as a trustee. The suit claims the steal was released from the port without the consignment bills and without the knowledge of BNP.

Union Bank and Bank Leumi have 30 days to submit a letter of defense.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Compro Software working with TVTEL: Compro Software Systems has begun development of a series of applications and information services for the interactive TVTEL system. Five hundred families are currently testing the new service, a joint project of Bezek, Elbit, and Tadiran. The computerized system, based upon France's MiniTel model, provides information, entertainment, and games, and allows users to shop and conduct other transactions.

Mei Eden in Chinese joint venture: Mei Eden has announced the establishment of a joint venture for bus station advertising in China. The Rothschild Bank of France, which assisted in making contact between the partners, will indirectly hold shares in the company, which will be registered in Hong Kong. Mei Eden will hold 50% in the joint venture. Some $2.5m. in the form of a loan will be invested in the its first year. Mei Eden will invest an additional $1.5m., and owners Yehuda and Ronni Naftali will also invest $1.5m.

Tal Cable invests in London real estate: Tal Cable Laying bought 3% of the outstanding shares in London real estate concern Safeland PLC for £200,075.

Teuza investing in Misat: The Teuza venture capital fund has announced its second stage of investment in Misat,a satellite ground receiver manufacturer. Its $200,000 investment will be matched by Misat's US investors. The company recently filled an $1.5m. order to the US.

4th Dimension unveils new system: 4th Dimension Software has unveiled its Enterprise Control Station for Hewlett Packard-based organizations, providing HP UNIX customers with the capability to manage multiple platforms from a central HP-UX platform. The company has further announced that it will be able to support IBM's MVS/ESA Version 5 release 2 operating system which was launched last week. With this support, the company's family of CONTROL products will be compatible with any new versions of the MVS system.

Elron, Advanced Network Systems form partnership: Elron has announced a strategic partnership with New York-based Advanced Network Systems for development of ElroNet wide band international service network. Abe Peled, vice president for business development, said the agreement allows Elron to market ANS services to Israeli firms with offices in the US. ANS will market similar services to American firms wishing to do business in Israel. There are currently some 200 companies in this group, of which 60 are traded in New York.

WORLD BRIEFS

Northrop Grumman cutting 9,000 jobs: Northrop Grumman Corp. announced yesterday that it would reduce its work force by 9,000 over the next 15 months.

The announcement of layoffs from the renamed company had been expected following the May merger of Northrop Corp. and Grumman Corp.

The company said it did not know how many of the jobs would be lost through layoffs, since the total would depend on attrition, the number of employees who take advantage of an early retirement program, and other voluntary reduction-in-force programs at Grumman operations.

Work force reductions in California are expected to total approximately 4,500 workers, including 700 by the end of 1994, the company said. And Northrop Grumman will cut 3,500 jobs at its facilities on Long Island, N.Y., including 2,500 by the end of this year, the company said.

The company currently employs 47,500 people. *AP*

US jobless claims drop: First-time applications for state unemployment benefits dropped by 7,000 last week, the Labor Department said yesterday, indicating that the US job market is still strong.

Initial claims for the week ending September 17 declined to 320,000 from an unrevised 327,000 the previous week, it said.

The total was well below Wall Street economists' forecasts of 332,000 new claims for the week.

The department's four-week average measure of claims, considered a better gauge of the jobs market than the more-volatile weekly figures, dipped slightly, by 750 to 327,500 from the previous week's unrevised 328,250. *Reuter*

Aerospatiale trims first-half losses: French state-owned aircraft and missile group Aerospatiale SNA said yesterday it cut back losses in the first half of this year to $63.2 million, down from $164m. in the same period last year.

Aerospatiale predicted in a statement that it would show "very significant" improvement in full-year results from its 1993 loss of $268m.

Consolidated revenue in the first half fell 5.2 percent to $4.1b. from $4.3b. in the first half of 1993. *AP*

Guinness profits up: Tough trading conditions in British and US spirits markets restricted drinks giant Guinness Plc to a mere 5% rise in first-half profits, the company said yesterday.

The profit line was flattered by a lower interest charge and exchange rate benefits, with underlying profits down slightly due largely to cut-throat price discounting in the gin and vodka markets in the US and a sagging British whisky market.

The group, which boasts brands such as Johnnie Walker scotch, Gordon's gin and the eponymous stout, had pre-tax profits of £320m. after £305m. a year ago, on 1% lower sales of £1.96b. *Reuter*

All Shekem warrants exercised

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE public has exercised all the outstanding Shekem warrants issued last September, bringing an additional NIS 11.5 million into the Treasury's coffers, the Government Companies Authority reported yesterday.

The authority also announced it will choose the winning bid for the controlling stake in the company from among nine groups during the second half of next month.

The warrants were issued last September, when 65 percent of Shekem shares offered in the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange raised NIS 200m. The successful warrant sale, which accounted for approximately 4% of the Shekem shares offered, concluded the first stage of the company's privatization.

The remaining 35% of the shares will be sold to an individual investor or group of investors as a controlling interest during the second half of October.

Based on a Shekem's current market value of approximately $178m., the controlling interest is now valued at about $62m.

IMF urges 'shock therapy' for Russia

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – The International Monetary Fund has proposed that Russia abandon its cautious strategy of gradual reform and launch a bold anti-inflation drive reminiscent of economic shock therapy, international monetary sources said.

To help ease the pain of such an ambitious approach, the Fund has promised to provide Moscow with billions of dollars in new loans and to work with it to win a generous rescheduling of its big foreign debts.

Moscow is still considering the proposal, which would carry huge political risks. It would mean throwing many people out of work as obsolete state-run factories would be closed and government spending slashed.

But the political payoff could be enormous, if the strategy works. It would mean that inflation would be all but vanquished and would lay the basis for a sustained economic revival in Russia after years of financial ruin.

That is what happened after economic shock therapy was adopted in 1990 in Poland. Its economy outperformed that of all European industrial countries last year.

Russian officials are expected to discuss the plan – and perhaps outline Moscow's response – when they meet IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus in Madrid during the Fund's annual meeting early next month.

Under the IMF proposal, Russia would launch an ambitious drive designed to quickly slash inflation to Western European levels, monetary sources sad. That could mean bringing inflation down to perhaps on the order of a ½ percent per month.

Milkman Dairies sells out to Tnuva

RACHEL NEIMAN

MILK MAN dairies has announced the sale of all properties, technologies and brand names to Tnuva.

Milk Man, of which 75 percent was owned by investment company Malibu and 16.6% by real estate concern Azorim, will receive $2.7 million plus some NIS 8m. for existing stock and receivables, to be paid by October 1. In addition the company will be paid royalties of 2% for the next five years on all sales of Milk Man products exceeding the agreed upon sum of NIS 27.2m.

Milk Man employs 120 workers in its Beit She'an factory, of whom Tnuva has agreed to retain 70. Management of the factory will be transferred to Tnuva's dairies at Kibbutz Tel Yosef.

The company, one of the eight top dairies in the country, made its reputation on high-quality yoghurt with eye-catching package designs. Since its founding in 1991 Milk Man has not made a profit, incurring net losses of NIS 8.3m. on revenues of NIS 30m. in 1993. The company's losing streak continued into the first half of this year with net losses of NIS 2.3m.

Azorim said it does not expect the sale to influence third quarter results, since a loan to Milk Man was repaid in 1993 and all losses have been reported.

The yoghurt market is considered to be a particularly difficult one in which to compete as prices are controlled. Prices are determined by the Dairy Board and closely match those of Tnuva.

Tnuva initially did not participate in bidding for the struggling company since it was sure that the Trade and Industry Ministry would not allow it to buy Milk Man, which also conducted negotiations with Strauss, Tara, Koor, and Clal.

The deal with Tnuva was closed only after the go-ahead was given by Dr. Yoram Turbowits, the Monopolies Supervisor.

Turbowits was faced with the fact that only Tnuva has the distribution network capable of absorbing a new subsidiary. Milk Man's own distribution was never able to compete with the national milk giant. Although Tnuva has distribution arrangements with Yotvata, it had always declined to a similar agreement with Milk Man. Tnuva will now distribute Milk Man products through Tene Noga.

A second factor which motivated Turbowits's decision was the $10m. projected loss to Malibu, should the sale not take place.

In an interview with *Ha'aretz* Tnuva managing director Yitzhak Landesman said that Tnuva had intended to introduce yoghurt in glass jars and the acquisition would save his company the introduction costs. In any case, Landesman said "if a dairy is already producing milk products, it is preferable that it be working for Tnuva."

Tnuva also announced yesterday it has invested $1.5m. in machinery for the production of American processed cheese. The new "Toasty" series features cheddar, edam and ementhal cheese food slices in the traditional clear plastic individual wrapper. The company said the new line was part of a development and renewal policy at Tnuva.

(מטרה) PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 21.9.94
Redemption Price: 96.39
Purchase Price: 97.13

leumi pia לאומי פיא

(מטרה) TARGET טרגט
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 21.9.94
Redemption Price: 135.06
Purchase Price: 136.32

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Pioneer International Ltd

South African Economic Statistics

			Prices 21.9.94	Prices 14.9.94	%Change
Exchange rates: (buy)	Commercial Rand/$	:	3.544	3.557	0.38%
	Financial Rand/$	:	4.390	4.507	2.60%
	Commercial Rand/£	:	5.589	5.532	-1.02%
Interest rates: (Ry)*	Money Market (BAs)	:	10.80%	10.80%	0.00%
	Escom 2008	:	15.69%	16.09%	-2.49%
	Escom 2020	:	15.26%	14.27%	6.94%
	RSA 150	:	15.39%	15.74%	-2.22%
	UAL Max Income	:	13.66%	15.44%	-11.53%
Prices: UTs: (buy)	OM Investors	:	R 42.6748	43.5491	-2.01%
	Escom 168	:	70.09838	68.34641	2.56%
	Guardbank	:	36.1413	36.754	-1.11%
	UAL Gilt	:	12.0483	12.0113	0.31%
	Max Income	:	10.4687	10.4907	-0.21%
Shares: (close)	De Beers	:	106.50	110.00	-3.18%
	Vaal Reef	:	474.00	480.00	-1.25%
	Anglo American	:	242.50	257.00	-5.64%
	Barlows	:	30.00	32.75	-8.40%
	SA Brews	:	83.00	86.50	-4.05%
	Sasol	:	35.15	35.25	-0.28%
	Tiger Oats	:	42.00	42.50	-1.18%
	Iscor	:	4.50	4.70	-4.26%
	JSE Actuaries Overall	:	5,801	5,955	-2.58%

*RY – running yield.

COMMENTS: Reserve Bank Governor, Chris Stals, stated: "If foreign exchange controls were scrapped, the Bank would be unable to support the market without up to R30bn in reserves." He added that a healthy reserve cushion was needed to protect South Africa from potential capital outflows of between R5bn to R10bn.
He recommended a gradual phasing-out of exchange controls. Short term overdraft rates are expected to increase, given the precarious level of South Africa's foreign reserves, uncertainty about the government's fiscal policies and the negative outlook on inflation.

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

- In the UK, the equity market suffered a setback after last week's rate rise. Whilst in the short term the market will continue to be affected by the direction of international rates, many equity strategists are commenting that on a long term view, the market offers good value. We continue to recommend Cable & Wireless (£4.02), which has been unduly affected by the weakness of HK Telecom, following tough Chinese negotiations on future deals. BTR (£3.08), after a sharp fall due to margin pressures at the interim stage, is finding support at current levels. There are three dividends, & two results announcements in the next 15 months, and the annualised dividend yield is an attractive 5.7% for a quality recovery stock.
- Although the Austrian market has weakened 3% in the past week, our recent recommendation of the domestic brewer Brau-Union (US$69.20) has outperformed the market by 2%. Consolidation in the Greek market, has seen selected buying. Our clients are buying Dane Shipping (US$4.68) which are attractively priced at the current levels. In Turkey, the announcement of important political by elections has supported the market. In the past week, the Istanbul market has firmed 8.8%, and continues to look attractive. Our recent recommendation of Alarco Holdings (US$0.795) has risen 22.9%, and continues to offer value. A recent IPO, Borusan (US$0.736), a manufacturer of pipes, has rised 8.7% since the offer, and is seen as cheap. In Hong Kong, there have been rumours in the market that Jardine International Motors may have been merging its operations with its affiliate Cycle & Carriage in Singapore. Within the Singapore Exchange, our clients have been actively buying the blue chip property shares, focussing on DBS Land (US$3.10) & United Overseas Land (US$1.60).
- The strengthening of the Financial Rand has afforded a good buying opprtunity in South African bonds. Our clients are buying E168's to yield 19.5% to non-residents, & TELKOM TK01's to yield 19.25%. Our clients are buying NSA Investments (R7.00). This Company recently came to the market, & is run by Arnie Witkin, who had wonderful success in the 1980's with New Berrica.

Any information contained herein should not be construed in any way as a public offering

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (22.9.94)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.375	4.750	5.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.250	4.875	5.875
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.125	4.250	4.750
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.000	3.875	3.750
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.750	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (22.9.94)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rate**
Currency basket	3.3480	3.3660	—	—	3.3746
U.S. dollar	2.9940	3.0363	2.94	3.06	3.0170
German mark	1.9380	1.9693	1.90	1.99	1.9810
Pound sterling	4.7248	4.7913	4.63	4.85	4.7587
French franc	0.5663	0.5743	0.55	0.58	0.5705
Japanese yen (100)	3.0504	3.0935	3.00	3.14	3.0772
Dutch florin	1.7268	1.7512	1.70	1.78	1.7408
Swiss franc	2.3801	2.3931	2.29	2.40	2.3488
Swedish krone	0.4014	0.4071	0.39	0.41	0.4044
Norwegian krone	0.4416	0.4478	0.43	0.45	0.4450
Danish krone	0.4923	0.4992	0.48	0.51	0.4960
Finnish mark	0.6065	0.6171	0.60	0.63	0.6136
Canadian dollar	2.2265	2.2598	2.19	2.29	2.2472
Australian dollar	2.2030	2.2341	2.14	2.27	2.2228
S. African rand	0.6453	0.6573	0.63	0.66	0.6516
Belgian franc (10)	0.9412	0.9545	0.92	0.97	0.9481
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7506	2.7897	2.70	2.83	2.7721
Italian lira (1000)	1.9174	1.9445	1.87	1.98	1.9314
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.20	4.46	4.2540
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.88	0.97	0.9805
ECU	3.6934	3.7456	—	—	3.7234
Irish punt	4.6561	4.7321	4.56	4.84	4.7073
Spanish pesos (100)	2.3361	2.3712	2.27	2.43	2.3551

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0170	-0.13%
Sterling	NIS 4.7587	-0.05%
Mark	NIS 1.9510	+0.10%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3934.44	-17.16
DJ Transport	1505.54	-15.99
DJ Utils	176.77	-0.07
DJ Comp	1883.72	-1.68
NYSE Indust	318.98	-0.41
NYSE Transport	332.66	+0.52
NYSE Comp	264.42	-0.29
S&P 100	457.94	-1.33
S&P Stock Index	461.66	-0.38
AMEX Comp	464.47	-0.3

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	1897	994	1189
Volume up (in 100shs)			135127
Volume down (in 100shs)			136922

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3021.2	-0.4
Tokyo Nikkei average	19853.8	-91.7
Singapore all-share index	555.30	+0.79
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	9668.14	-156.61
Israeli Index	177.05	+0.42

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Am Is Pet	49.25	
Ampal A	9.875	+0.25
Arik	9.375	
Biotechnology	2.375	
Central Corp	8	
Ribboon (electrodes)	3.75	+0.125
Elscint	2.88	
Etz Lavud	6.5	-0.125
Etz Lavud A	6.875	
Laser T.	5.5	
PEC	25.375	+0.5
Tadiran	33.38	-0.88
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	7.75	
4TH. Dimension	6.25	+0.5
Angel 6.5	29	
BVR	5.5	
Comverse	10.125	+0.5
Data. (Delorme)	6.875	+0.125
DCI	17.25	+0.25
Educative	2.9375	+0.1875
Edu-Soft	10	
Electric Fuel	7.75	-0.125
ESYS	25.75	+0.8555
Ebit	25.75	
Elron	11.125	
Eshed Robotec	0.9375	
Fibrotek	1.25	+0.0625
M. Systems	3.4375	
Gilat	10.5	+0.25
IBG	3.125	-0.125
Geotek	9.75	-0.125
Health Tech	2.1875	-0.125
Idan	6.5625	-0.03125
IEC	4.25	+0.125
Indigo	17.75	+0.5
Insrpharm	20	
Inrotech	1.75125	-0.03125
First Isr Fund	13.75	-0.125
Isratech	0.56875	+0.00625
Lannet	9.375	+0
Lanoptics	8.5625	+0.125
Magal	9.5	+0
Media-Al	4.375	+0.0781
Mercury	9.875	-0.125
Megiv	8.25	+0.25
Orbotech	9.625	-0.375
Orsap Tech	3.25	
Radc	4.1875	+0.0625
Robomatics	2	
Saphera	4.125	
Scitex	22.25	+0.375
Silcon	4.125	
T.A.T. Technol	3.125	-0.125
Teva Vit	6.125	
Telrad-net	0.625	-0.125
Telegraph	5.1875	-0.0625
Teva	28.375	+0.125
TVG	1.75	

(All listings are closing quotes)

Sources: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Data 22-SEP-94)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.5765	-0.003
	Dec.future (CME)	1.5738	-0.003
D-mark:	spot	1.5463	-0.001
	Dec.future (CME)	0.6466	-0.0005
S-franc:	spot	1.2938	+0.0008
	Dec.future (CME)	0.7715	-0.0004
Yen:	spot	97.28	+0.18
	Dec.future (CME)	0.010277	-3.5e-005
CanDlr:	spot	1.344	+0.0003
	Dec.future (CME)	0.7444	-0.0006
AusDlr:	spot	0.7352	+0.0008
	Dec.future (CME)	0.7259	+0.0018
Fr.franc	spot	5.5976	+0.0048
& Lire:	spot	1595.5	+4
Mg:	spot	1.758	-0.0015
Austrsch:	spot	10.9020	-0.0035
Rand:	spot	8.268	+0.0095
SDR:	spot	1.234	+0.0004
Bonds	future	89.4088	+0.05
S and P.	future	463.25	-0.4

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	1 months	5.25	+0.125
Dollar	6 months	5.8875	+0.1125
Dollar	12 months		
Sterling	3 months	5.8575	0
Sterling	6 months	5.8625	0
Sterling	12 months	7.5	0
S-franc	3 months	4.125	0
S-franc	6 months	4.4375	0
S-franc	12 months	4.8125	0
D-mark	3 months	5.125	0
D-mark	6 months	5.3125	0
D-mark	12 months	5.5875	0
Yen	3 months	2.375	+0.0625
Yen	6 months	2.4375	0
Yen	12 months	2.5875	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Data 22-SEP-94)

Foreign financial data courtesy of

CommStock Trading Ltd.

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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Dec) (CE)	1207	-9
Coffee (Dec) (CE)	227.55	-3.8
Sugar no.11 (Oct) (CE)	12.88	+0.01
Wheat (Dec) (CBT)	365.25	-5.75
Soybeans(Nov)(CBT)	582.5	-3.5
Orange Juice (Nov)(CE)	85.1	+4.5
Crude oil light (Dec)(CE)	17.8	+0.42

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Dec) (LCE)	997	+1
Coffee (Nov) (LCE)	4045	-36
Brent crude oil (Nov)(IPE)		

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold:	spot	396.45	+1.3
Silver:	spot	5.7	+0.05

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Dec)	399	+1.2
Silver (Dec)	5.795	+0.073
Platinum (Oct.)	421.4	+1.9
Palladium (Dec.)	157.05	+0.8
High-grade copper (Dec)		

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	393.95	-0.85
Gold PM fix	395.7	-1.2
Silver fix	5.685	-0.6
Platinum PM fix	419.25	-1.4

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Data 22-SEP-94)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FirstInt2	4700	-5.0
General	8391	-3.0
IndDevDD		
IndDvPrD		
LeumiWt1		
MeriD	204	-5.1
OtH1	157716	
Tmpo	735	-1.2
TradeC	1800.00	2.0

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	3937.20	-3.0
Clal	8.88	-0.6
ClalnC2	328	-0.6
DevBk	1873.0	-1.5
FirstMB	3922.0	-1.5
IndepMB	4870.0	-2.2
I Isr&D	129.00	
JernBnk	330	-3.0
LeumiMBR	8884.7	-2.0
Mishkan	3926.0	
MishkanC	185.50	
Mizrhi	11517	-0.3
TelahoR	1997.38	-4.6

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	%chg
Shiton	3788	

Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
AmaBer1	1754	
Arnpal	1881	
Ayalon	1308	7.0
AyalonO	804	10.1
Elan	5400	
ElanC1	194.50	5.1
Hadar1	1391	0.6
Hadar5	1278	1.0
HamalynC	3000	
HamalynH	1610	-0.9
Hamishmt	1.452	0.6
Menorah1	1399	
Menorahs	1371	-1.0
Phoenix1	4445	-5.0
Phoenix5	4213	-4.5
Shirbit	694	-9.1
Zion5	3318	

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
Isotronics	880	-1.8
Kelsey	1847	-0.5
Keren	1585	-3.0
RetailWt5	213	
RndWthC1	185.00	0.4
RndWthC2	184.80	-1.8
SpyroMrm L	4488	
Ttec0.1	39313	-6.8
Clal Comp	23995	-10.0
ClalOncC	804	
ClalTWE	2381	-10.5
ClalTech	2107	
CoCo	1437	-1.0
Crystal	2431	
DanHotl	3985	-5.0
DCI	746	-0.7
DCLW	315	-5.2
Elad	2310	-5.8
Feldman	2000	
GenTrade	2270	
GenTrdC	800	
GlenGS	193.00	-0.5
GrenGC1	181.00	0.6
GrenWts	197.00	
HGICh	1285.60	
HGIWt	212	
HOt1	887	-2.8
InglemH	4888	-0.2
IngleisT	4439	1.0
Lntz	1388	-5.0
Melt	1179	-4.0
Mashech	918	-3.0
MeitavWt	1138	
M.L.D1	188.50	-7.0
Repso	9008	-5.6
Rashpt	1139.80	
ReshtC1	110.80	-1.8
Team	2648	-1.5
TeamC1	188.00	-5.1
TeamC2		
Telaya	1381	
Topline	408	-6.1
YaadC1	121.50	0.4
Yaara	1355	
Yadan1	1305	
Yona	818	+1.0

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
advotech	308	-4.0
electroop	3079	-2.5
Elron	1095	0.2
eolog	482	
wilpar	333	-2.4
yehoshua	430	
AdamO	127.00	0.4
AdmdC		
AdmcomC2	15.80	
Allenbe	1443	-4.0
Alony	347	
AlonyWt1		
AuraWt1L	16136	
Avgol	1250	
Avgolsa	525	
AvnC1	108.00	
Avnov	2648	-1.7
Avnpref1	182.50	
AshdodWt	1748	-2.5
AshkelWt		
Asherom	452	6.1
Atzmon	523	-2.1
AtzmonWt	398	14.8
Azorim	830	-3.5
Bekaon	499	-4.2
BoskoC1	213	-0.5
Cables C2	297	4.0
CablesC3	197.50	
CablesW3	588	
Carditre	13544	
Carpet	1891	
Casko	1714	-2.0
Chem	998	-1.0
ClalIndC	330	
ClalIndU1	2800	-4.2
Clal Oil	3507	-0.6
CycloneW	5433	8.5
CyclonT1	13899	7.0
CyclonT	10051	8.0
CyclonC1	158.00	
CyclonC2	159.00	8.9
Delforid	180.00	
DelforiW2	1892	-4.5
Delrost1	3811	
Dexelon	910	-8.9
Dexelon1	1352	-3.8
Delta 1	1500	1.5
Delta3	1488	-0.5
Dubosit	12897	-2.0
DubosR1	13100	-1.3
DubosC		
EdgeC2	45.00	
EdgeW3	36.50	
Elgar1	92.00	
Elgar	338	-0.9
ElgarC2	153.50	1.1
ElronW1w	74.50	
Elscint1	16084	
ElscintW	6826	-1.8
Elscint	978	0.6
ElscintW1	72.00	-20.0
Elscint2	9498	-4.5
ElscrG4	321	1.5
ElscrC	979	0.4
ElscrRes	888	0.7
Elsint	2388	5.0
Fertilizr1	2707	-1.9
FeuerW1	6801	
FeuchtW5	6801	-5.0
Fish J	3268	1.4
FoldecC1	205	
FoldecC2	196.50	1.0
GibonC1	94.50	
GibonRes	513	
Gilat	1707	-10.0
Golan	1030	1.0
Hanotait	2998	
HanotaW1	467	
HanotaW5	467	-4.3
Hod	978	-1.1
Hofit	824	-1.4
IscCtin1	3168	
Isr-Am	827	0.6
IsrDebentury1	4900	
Kadoco	5764	2.5
KadoorC2	1980.00	1.9
Kitan	997	
KitanC1	141.00	1.1
KitanW1		
Klil	2701	
Knafaim	2993	-0.2
Lipski	2932	3.5
Lodzia1	1741	-0.2
LodziaL1	1727	-11.0
LuriaGal	291	-1.0
MedFal	3988	
Magen	479	-10.1
Maximen1	1601	-0.5
Maximen	1698	
Mel Roim	980	-0.2
Modgal	1097	0.7
Monitor1	5981	
Monitors	470	
MonitorC	1000	-4.0
Nahusha1	1588	
Nahusha	1012	-0.5
Neolot	1321	1.0
NeolotW1		
Nicor	3017	10.0
NobleC	880	2.5
Oils	1291	-1.2
Optir	271	1.9
OrbitI	435	2.8
Orbit	888	
PardesW2	2650	1.8
Pargod	2098	
ProDrien	857	-2.0
Pitzu	354	-0.1
PolgatA	472	
PolgatC1	186.50	0.8
Polygon	888	4.5
PolygonC	178.00	-1.1
PCS	885	-5.0
Rekhesh	1049	-4.0
RekhshW	491	-4.8
RenMot1	874	2.2
Rimo1	1401	
Rimo5	1991	2.6
Rishpn	578	-2.0
Rivertech	13000	3.0
Rotstex	413	3.0
Shal	211	-3.2
Sunfloat	11057	
Tevl	62132	-2.0
Tadiran	1198	
TadirC		
Tefen	1194	-3.2
TW	818	2.0
TholenI	888	-1.9
Tiltan	3289	3.9
YATCH	212	
TATT	579	
Ubiquit	1835	-10.6
Unitrans	488	-10.0
Vicepri	1294	
Vidan	836	-5.1
VulcanC	183.50	
WestMan	20002	-2.0
WestmanW3	12218	
YitzgtC2	384	-0.5
Zahavi	978	
Zfan1	1794	
Zfan5	1773	-0.2
Zfan1	4585	-1.5
Zfan5	4488	-2.0
ZionCash1	1214	-2.0
Zohalind	598	-2.1

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
Jacobiv	2888	-5.0
Isrred	454	6.2
Isrshel	887	-0.5
wallson	98905	-1.0
Yavneg	300	-3.8
Yavne	2151	5.2
AlonG		
AlonAHL	787	-11.0
Assdim	307	5.1
Assdim C1	177.00	-0.3
AstarIsr1	1478	
Astarim	3988	
AstarBG1	838	
AstarIsr2	1622	-4.0
Astrum	1210	
AstraBG1	381	
AsyrpG1	2853	-1.2
AyorProp	813	
Barkan1	2008	-0.5
Bayside	39272	-1.0
BayshoG1	54388	-2.0
BarIYaGv	3139	
BarIYaW1	1403	-5.3
BarIYaC	78.50	-7.0
BldgRes	8038	-4.5
Canada	3888	-7.2
Canada1	1700	-8.0
CanRes1C	164.50	0.9
Darash1	270	0.4
Dunlop	5977	3.5
DunlopOw	2	
Engel	7888	-4.0
GoldHous	3388	1.5
GldHousC	186.50	-0.5
Isras	3918	-3.0
IsrasC1	337	-0.9
Lesnick	3272	-4.1
Lesnik1	894	0.5
Mellaron	1195	6.0
Oz	397	
Risaco	3484	-1.0
Scandia	2088	
ScandiaC	188.00	1.2
UnicomG1	114.80	
Unicorn1	149.00	
Unicorn5	148.00	
UnicorW3	35.50	

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
abcontech	882	
Isotcerlegn	488	-8.1
Ipman	1715	-0.2
maarivtst	888	10.0
Nisco	1818	
Orbotech	3107	-6.1
Rekhem	888	-1.2
Schmelzer	1038	
Wembrix	2317	-10.0
Wonderel	1240	0.7
AdvertIn1	337	
Baruch1	2088	-12.0
Baruch5	943	-0.6
Brush1	431	
Dorad	21.40	
Elram	225	
Gali	139.50	
Grp1	888	2.5
Lahavt1	4380	-5.0
MenDi	190.50	
Mant1	477	
MLT	1500	
Neca	35882	-1.5
NecaG1	208	
Ohalo	2222	-1.0
Orscht	484	8.9
OrschC	113.00	0.4
OrdaPrnt	3450	1.0
Polisi1	788	3.5
Shikbit	220	-3.9
Tnuva	1159	3.0
TibovW1		

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
durban1	2902	-2.8
Ickr	1022	-2.8
maariton	76.50	
Atlas	2213	-1.2
Binyan	12978	-8.7
Harlam	3425	-5.0
Mirage	158.00	5.4
MivtahG1		
Ophira	370	
Regent1	333	-1.8
Yisium	183.00	-1.5

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
DelOEIn1	3204	-0.2
Naphtha	86.80	7.4

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
a.dar	280	-0.4
dorshaz	114.00	
granitor	238	
Hadav	1100	-4.3
Adler	888	0.4
Bel—Tom1	2148	-5.2
Dapanel1	8438	
Delta	6418	
Gedt	828	-4.5
GlobW1	888	
GlobC1	337	-0.9
Lesnick	272	-4.1
Lesnin1	894	0.5
Mellaron	1195	6.0
Oz	397	
Risaco	3484	-1.0
Scandia	2088	
ScandiaC	188.00	1.2
UnicomG1	114.80	
Unicorn1	149.00	
Unicorn5	148.00	
UnicorW3	35.50	

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
abcontech	882	
Isotcerlegn	488	-8.1
Ipman	1715	-0.2
maarivtst	888	10.0
Nisco	1818	
Orbotech	3107	-6.1
Rekhem	888	-1.2
Schmelzer	1038	
Wembrix	2317	-10.0
Wonderel	1240	0.7
AdvertIn1	337	
Baruch1	2088	-12.0
Baruch5	943	-0.6
Brush1	431	
Dorad	21.40	
Elram	225	
Gali	139.50	
Grp1	888	2.5
Lahavt1	4380	-5.0
MenDi	190.50	
Mant1	477	
MLT	1500	
Neca	35882	-1.5
NecaG1	208	
Ohalo	2222	-1.0
Orscht	484	8.9
OrschC	113.00	0.4
OrdaPrnt	3450	1.0
Polisi1	788	3.5
Shikbit	220	-3.9
Tnuva	1159	3.0
TibovW1		

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
Inyit	1302	
Adasa1	1302	-0.5
Adasa2	1204	
AtlasG	881	0.8
Atrom	15288	
Arisi	7548	
Azr sC2	211	
ClalWt5	3827	
Clal30	8588	-0.5
DelekInC	2827	
Delrber1	3272	0.2
Elem	4864	
Emsh	277	1.1
ExpinC4	288	2.8
ExpinC1		
Hlds	840	-4.8
HlasWt4	430	1.4
Hlds6	8428	-4.0
Isrel	1797	
IDLC8	1941.50	0.9
IDLC1	180.00	1.1
IDLC1A	181.50	
Kardan1	992	
KardanG2		
Klal	886	-2.5
Magor1	2798	-4.0
Magnet	2880	0.6
Mofet	707	0.6
Obl01	198.00	
OblWt1	8882	-5.8
Ofer	19478	3.8
Pemo0.1	1880	
Rim1	886	
Rim1	884	

Two-sided trading

Name	AFTERNOON Price	% Change	Volume Shares	MORNING Price	% Change	Volume Shares
buildipr	822	-1.7	7200	824	-1.6	23881
nacional	1880	-0.5	12800	1869		19031
Abjac	48.7	3.0	390000	47.8	1.1	313791
Ackerin	649	3.0	231000	649	3.0	31327
Adecom	36.5			36.5		
Afris 0	483071	-1.0	152	487951		108
Afrisr	459395	-0.5	276	461704		116
Agan	4561	-1.2	8000	4561	-1.3	5023
Agis	2415	1.0	59200	2391		7140
Aryt	731	-2.5	1800	739	-1.5	4500
Avner	12.1	0.5	720000	12.0		593205
Azorim	4853		2400	4853		13159
ALPM	14895	-0.5	1800	15070		4287
Bazak	662	0.5	498000	559		289183
Boulo	290	1.0	22000	288	0.3	17044
Cables	1718	3.0	14000	1701	2.0	7820
Clal Ele	33920	-2.0	1620	34256	-1.0	2951
Clal Tra	1112	-1.5	4500	1112	-1.5	38668
Clal 10	9372	-0.7	21080	9457	0.3	5851
Clalins	1602		9900	1598	-0.2	16484
Clalstr 5	2736	-1.5	14400	2764	-0.5	7685
Clinds	1988	-1.7	103200	2023		77285
CohenDev	1020	0.7	1500	1022	1.0	3179
Danber 5	2804	1.5	7000	2585	0.7	12711
Dead Sea	1290	-0.5	34500	1286		22022
Delek	8542	1.0	3800	8457		3578
Discinv	23837		3640	23837		2554
Elbit	28978	2.2	17080	28514	0.5	4803
Elco	9827	1.2	11840	9804		2942
Elite 5	1571		13000	1571		15477
Elron	11248	2.0	21750	11028		2881
Energr n	2783	-4.0	45500	2769	-4.5	16794
Export	1892	1.0	2400	1896	1.2	6873
Fibi	48382	-1.0	980	48455	-0.7	614
Formula	1895	5.5	61000	1807		21921
Fnstrt1	34711			34711		394
Fnstrt5	31495	-1.0	55	31495	-1.0	4535
Frutstrm	1176	0.2	60000	1175	0.3	12542
Gahelet	7815	0.2	200	7815	0.3	547
Granit	845	0.2	60000	844		55407
Hapoalm	428	1.0	110000	423	0.2	58080
Hapolm	11302	-0.5	1500	11359		3950
IndBldg	435	-2.7	116000	439	-1.8	46330
IndDevBK	36895	-2.2		36895	-2.5	509
Isramco	18.0	3.5	14350000	18.4	5.7	3882509
IsrCorp1	26791	-1.7	2100	27268		3441
IsrCorp5	28428	-2.0	1825	28987		3004
IsrChem	252	-2.0	518000	257		188282
IDB	1159	0.7	124500	1153	0.3	33276
IDBDev	66315	0.2	1000	66812	1.0	754
ILDC	1524	-1.7	18000	1535	-1.0	38314
JEC	1465	-1.0	2400	1485	-1.0	51226
JOEL	247	0.2	192000	253	2.8	195396
Kardan5	571	2.0	60000	564	0.7	62436
Kitan	1177	0.2	3600	1177	0.3	31556
Koor	25813	-2.0	8100	26340		5548
Laumi	342	0.2	380000	341		375288
Lifshiz1	258			258		18927
Makhteh	1688	-1.0	34000	1678	-0.5	26342
Malibu5	945	2.2	7200	945	2.3	28986
Maman	833	2.0		833	2.0	50353
Mark1	2988	-2.2	3000	2976	-2.0	9136
Mashov	573	-3.5	15000	576	-3.0	16666
Mehadrin	19554	-0.7	1000	19653	-0.2	336
MeirEzra	4896	-1.0	7250	4994	1.0	6698
Mivtah	1443	0.2	4800	1439		24736
Multitck	1788	-0.7	26200	1781		33764
MGN5	8294		200	8294		1471
MLL1	598	4.5	27000	597	4.7	21093
NatoilDS	21.8	5.0	1920000	22.0	5.8	1135182
Oclf	11267	-0.7	1060	11315	-0.5	3907
Ormat	798	-1.0	54000	806		40737
Osem	2025	-1.0	3800	2025	-1.0	5679
OsemW1						
PazoilEx	270	3.0	90000	271	3.4	82854
Pecker	14123	1.2	800	14088	1.0	2231
Periclas	2371	-0.2	38000	2377		12832
Petrchem	1157		5400	1157		47282
Pkyon	16501	-0.7	720	16460	-1.0	1879
PolgatB	478	-2.2	60000	478	-2.2	77395
Poseidon	184.5		24000	184.5		103683
Rogosin	4254	2.0	4800	4202	0.7	1868
SalaPump	192.5	-2.5	96000	194.5	-1.5	148671
SuperalB	5788	-1.0	12000	5831	-0.3	12277
Tambour	783	-1.0		783	-1.0	14750
TelahotB	208450	-2.2	24	208978	-2.0	181
Tempo1	1843	1.2	22800	1829	0.5	20311
Teva	86132	-1.5	3000	87007	-0.5	1791
TevaC	484			484		3784
Tlomveal	828	-0.2	13500	830		27275
TATS	501	-0.2	8000	501	-0.2	67902
Urdan 0	424	0.2	4000	424	0.2	53398
Vaad	932			932		38184
Ytong	933		6000	933		29877

THE PEOPLE YOU CAN TALK TO.

SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Name	Price	chg	Name	Price	chg	Name	Price	chg	Name	Price	chg	Name	Price	chg	Name	Price	chg
NEW YORK																	
AMP Inc	73.5	+0.125	Chevron Corp	60.75	+0.25	Gerber Prodcts			Milacron	56.75	+1	Ryder System	26.375	-0.125	Wash Gas Light	26.125	+0.25
AMR Corp	84.625	+1.625	Chiquita Brands	15.875	+0.25	Gillette	70.125	+0.25	Mine Safety App	44.125	0	Rymer Co	3.75	-0.25	Washington Post	296.25	+0.375
ASA	52.375	+0.75	Chrysler	44.625	-1	Glaxo ADR	18.625	+0.125	Minnesota Mine	55.375	-1				Waste Mgmt Inc	29	-0.125
Abbott Labs	31.375	+1	Chubb Corp	33.5	-1.375	Golden W Fin	41	-0.375	Mitchell Energy	18.375	+0	SPS Technology	28.25	+0.75	Waldbs-Johnson	35.875	-0.125
Acme Cleveland	18	-0.125	Ciborg	43.5	+0	Goodrich (BF)	42.625	-0.125	Mobil Corp	78	+0.625	Safeco Corp	59.375	+0.75	Wells Fargo	151.125	+1.5
Advanced Micro	28.875	+0.75	Clark Equipment	67.5	-0.125	Goodyear Tire	33.125	+0.375	Molex Inc	39.25	-0.125	Safeway Stores	18.25	+0.25	Wendy's Intl	14.875	-0.125
Aetna Life	45	-0.375	Coastal Corp	28.625	+0.5	Grace (WR)	41.5	-0.5	Monarch Machi	9.75	+0	St Paul's Cos	40.625	+0	Western Publ	12.75	-0.25
Affiliated Publ	16.25	-0.125	Coca Cola	49.625	+0.5	Grainger (WW)	58.125	+0.25	Monsanto	80.875	-0.25	Salomon Inc	40.625	-0.125	Westinghouse El	13.875	+0.375
Aflac	33.25	+0.375	Coca Cola Ent	17.375	-0.125	Gt Atl Pac Tea	29.25	-0.5	Morgan (JP)	80.25	+1.125	San Diego Gas	18.5	+0.25	Westvaco	37	-0.25
Ahmanson (H)	21	-0.375	Colgate Palmoliv	58.5	+0.5	Gt Western Fin	19.625

Tensions rise ahead of disputed Zulu ceremony

CAPE TOWN (Reuter) – President Nelson Mandela expressed concern yesterday that violence could erupt this weekend during a traditional Zulu ceremony that has split South Africa's biggest tribe.

"We are concerned about that. We wish that there would be no such violence," Mandela told reporters who asked about a dispute over festivities to commemorate King Shaka, the 19th Century warrior chieftain who forged the Zulu tribe.

The commemoration has polarized the country's nine million Zulus along lines that largely mirror the rivalry between the conservative Inkatha Freedom Party led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Mandela's African National Congress.

Buthelezi's strongly traditionalist stance and reverence for Shaka's memory had until recently been backed by the king of the Zulus, Goodwill Zwelithini, but this week the king formally broke with him.

Zwelithini, who appears to be moving closer to the ANC, ordered the Shaka Day celebrations cancelled. He said he would not personally be able to attend them because his life was in danger from Inkatha supporters.

Buthelezi and senior aides said yesterday the ceremonies would go ahead in defiance of the king's wishes.

The Inkatha leader, who is also home affairs minister in Mandela's national unity government, said during a heated debate in the national parliament that only the legislature in the KwaZulu-Natal region could cancel the celebrations.

"He (the king) can advise the (regional) cabinet, he can address the assembly, but the king can only act in council with the cabinet. The cabinet decided they're proceding so that's the position," Buthelezi said.

Inkatha, which came a distant third in national elections last April, has a majority in the KwaZulu-Natal legislature.

Buthelezi said he did not expect any violence at the weekend.

In the decade up to the elections about 15,000 people were killed in violence fuelled by Inkatha-ANC rivalry. The violence, which still flares sporadically in KwaZulu-Natal, has eased since the election.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister John Major, ending what he called an emotional and moving trip to South Africa, said yesterday he was optimistic about the country's economic prospects and political future.

Wrapping up the first visit by a British prime minister in 34 years, Major said his enduring impression would be the atmosphere of hope and optimism he had discovered.

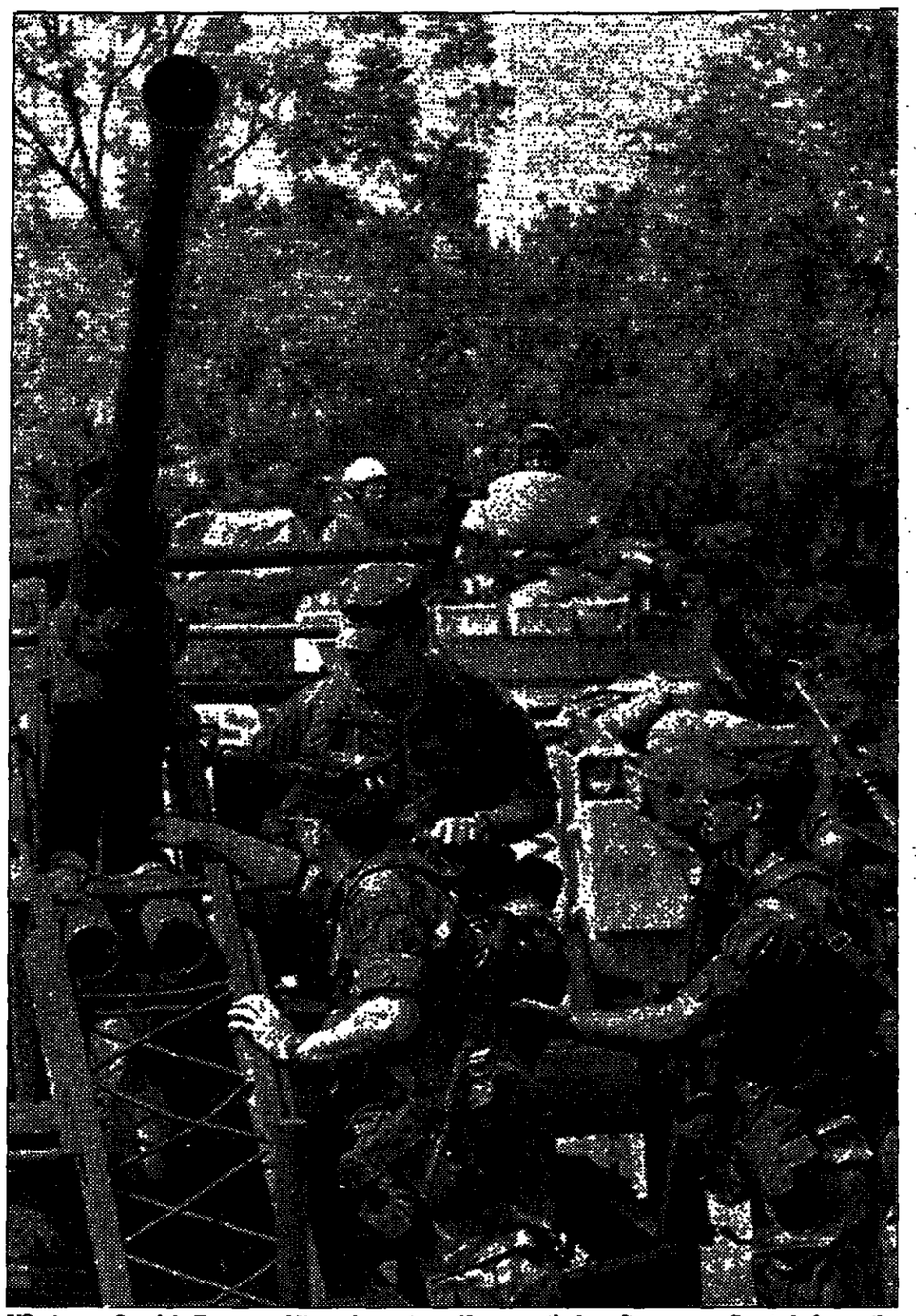
He said it was amazing that blacks who spent years in prison under apartheid were now working closely with former white jailors.

"It has moved me like few other visits I have made in the past," Major told a closing news conference in Pretoria.

Major said his three-day visit had drawn a line under the strained relations of the apartheid era, which ended when Nelson Mandela won April's first all-race elections.

"The problems that have divided us over much of the last 30 years are now behind us," he said.

Britain is the biggest foreign investor in South Africa but its preeminent position is under attack from suitors such as France, Germany, Japan and the United States.



US Army Special Forces soldiers inspect a 40mm anti-aircraft gun confiscated from the Haitians in Port-au-Prince. (Reuter)

US forces dismantle Haitian army's heavy weapons

ANITA SNOW
PORT-AU-PRINCE

THE US military yesterday began dismantling heavy weapons belonging to the Haitian army company that spearheaded the overthrow of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide three years ago.

US troops occupied Camp d'Application, where the military stores heavy equipment and munitions, and a US Special Forces battalion began sharing the barracks with Haitian soldiers.

Yesterday, the American forces moved two armored vehicles to a soccer field where they will be "rendered inoperable," along with the Haitian company's anti-aircraft weapons, anti-tank weapons and artillery.

"Symbolically, this is the end of coups d'etat in Haiti," Fritz Mevs, one of Haiti's richest businessmen, said Wednesday as he drove by the base in suburban Petionville. "The heavy weapons unit has been the tool of coup d'etat."

Meanwhile, stung by the spectacle of American soldiers standing by as Haitian police beat demonstrators, President Clinton says 1,000 newly arrived military police will help curb the violence.

The Pentagon cautioned, however, that the patrolling MPs can't stop every outbreak of violence.

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman John Shalikashvili yesterday briefed Clinton and his top aides on developments in Haiti, a day after the administration announced 1,000 military police were being dispatched to deter the bludgeon attacks.

"Such conduct cannot and will not be tolerated," Clinton said Wednesday, referring to the previous day's police attacks on Haitians who had poured into the streets to welcome the American occupying force.

Streets were calm yesterday with Haitians going about their business. Two US light armored vehicles were patrolling a main road that runs past the port.

After beating people bloody on Tuesday, Haitian police showed more restraint Wednesday in dispersing crowds that came to the port to watch the arrival of more and more American troops.

But they still shoved and threatened people, and in one case hurtled through a crowd in a van to break up a demonstration.

Haitian radio broadcast a statement by de facto President Emile Jonassaint saying he intends to call lawmakers as soon as possible to consider an amnesty for coup leaders and supporters.

The dismantling of the weapons company is the result of talks between the commander of the US force, Army Lt. Gen. Henry Hugh Shelton, and Haitian leader Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras.

Cedras and his supporters overthrew Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president, in a Sept. 1991 military coup. Cedras' reign has been marked by brutal political repression.

Shelton said Cedras agreed to rein in his soldiers and police to try to prevent a repeat of Tuesday's beatings, when police clubbed Haitians in full view of the American troops.

In an interview with CBS Wednesday night, Cedras said he told Shelton that measures were being taken to ensure "that members of the public force have more self-control." (AP)

Long-lost Verne novel portrays bleak future, predicts technology

PARIS (AP) – The automobile, the electric chair, even a version of the fax machine. Jules Verne anticipated all of them, in a prophetic, pessimistic 1863 novel about the future, long believed lost and now published for the first time.

The manuscript of *Paris in the 20th Century* had been rejected by Verne's own publisher, Jules Hetzel, who found the predictions of a high-tech but soulless society too bleak and far-fetched.

"You've undertaken an impossible task... and you haven't brought it off," Hetzel wrote to the 35-year-old author, whose later triumphs – *Around the World in 80 Days* and *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* – would make him the best-selling French author of all time.

Verne never revived the rejected manuscript. After his death in 1905, it was placed in a strongbox by his son, Michel, who also mentioned the work in a comprehensive list of all his father's published and unpublished writings.

Michel and his descendants published several of Verne's previously unpublished works, but *Paris in the 20th Century* remained locked in the strongbox, forgotten over the years while scholars began to assume it had been lost or perhaps burned.

In 1989, Verne's great-grandson, Jean, decided to force open the strongbox to ascertain its contents before selling the family house in Toulon. At first he was unsure what he had found, but by 1991 experts had verified the manuscript's identity.

It was edited into a 218-page book, complete with illustrations by a modern-day Belgian artist, Francois Schuiten, and published this week by Editions Hachette-Le Cherche Midi.

Though Hetzel, in his rejection letter, criticized Verne's abilities as a prophet, the novel shows him to be remarkably prescient in many of his predictions about life in Paris in 1963.

He describes gasoline-powered automobiles motoring along the capital's boulevards, 25 years before cars were invented. He writes of an elevated mass-transit system, powered by compressed air and running automatically along tracks that resembles the monorails of today. His version of today's fax machine employs a telegraph to send designs by wire over long distances.

And, 25 years before the first electric chair was used in the United States, he describes the electrocution of prisoner at a jail on the outskirts of Paris.

A few predictions were off the mark – clothes made of iron-based fibers, computers resembling giant pianos.

For all its technical wonders, Verne's city of the future is a grim, philistine place. Interest in classical cultural has vanished, proper French has degenerated into "horrible slang," money and technology are the paramount forces in a society run by an all-powerful state.

The novel's hero, Michel, is a homeless poet who searches desperately in bookstores for works of an "unknown" writer – Victor Hugo. By the end of the story, Michel and his fellow writers are hungry and miserable.

Publication of the book has attracted widespread attention across France, where Verne remains highly popular.

The Paris-based daily *Info Matin*, in an eight-page special section about the book, included an article by popular science-fiction writer Gerard Delteil envisioning Paris in year 2094. One prediction – cosmetic surgery so effective that 60-year-olds are indistinguishable from teenagers.

UN team heading to Zaire for talks on Rwandan refugees

KIGALI (Reuter) – A joint UN-Zaire task force to stem worsening insecurity in Rwandan refugee camps and get hordes of Hutus to return home is about to start work, UN officials said yesterday.

UN Military Spokesman Major Jean Guy Plante told reporters that a four-member UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) team would leave for Zaire early today.

In the latest violent incident in the camps, a grenade exploded and killed five Rwandan refugees and injured 20 others in the eastern Zaire town of Bukavu on Tuesday, according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Aid workers suspected that the grenade was thrown by one of the refugees.

Camps around Zaire's border towns of Goma and Bukavu hold an estimated 900,000 Hutu refugees – many of whom fear returning home for fear of reprisals at the hands of victorious Tutsi guerrillas of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF).

The Hutus fled after up to a million Tutsis and opposition Hutus were butchered in the aftermath of former president Juvenal Habyarimana's assassination on April 6.

The joint task force was also to decide what to do with nearly 20,000 ex-Rwandan army soldiers who have threatened to start a fresh guerrilla war to win back power.

Plante reported that although relative calm had returned to the Rwandan capital Kigali, an RPF soldier had been found murdered – Tuesday night. The soldier had a single bullet wound to the head.

"His death was mysterious. The circumstances are unknown."

Plante said that Zaire had named seven members to the task force, who would be joined by others from UN agencies involved in Rwanda.

He did not say when the task force would submit its report.

UN under-secretary-general for peacekeeping Koffi Annan, who ended a brief visit to Rwanda on Wednesday, held talks with top government figures and expressed concern that refugees were not coming home.

Aid workers said he was also concerned about reports of revenge killings of returning Hutus by RPF soldiers.

Hong Kong deports Vietnamese boat people

HANOI (AP) – A group of Vietnamese boat people who fought forced repatriation to their homeland arrived in Hanoi yesterday after some were manhandled on to a flight from Hong Kong.

The 33 men, women and children were deported from a detention camp in Hong Kong after authorities there disqualified them as possible political refugees. They were the first Vietnamese to be sent home by force from the British colony since March.

In Hong Kong, two men, who were sedated and strait-jacketed after slitting their wrists during a protest Tuesday, were rolled in blankets to restrain them and carried horizontally aboard the plane.

As prison officers pushed one woman on board, her screams were audible above the whine of the engines of the Hercules transport plane.

Three women, unable to walk either because of emotion or weakness from a protest hunger strike, were led aboard by officers who held their arms. Other officers guided the remaining Vietnamese on board, apparently without a struggle.

But when the returnees disembarked at Hanoi's Noi Bai International airport, "there was no resistance," said a British Embassy official present at the airport. "It was a very smooth and successful operation today."

Vietnamese customs officials kept reporters and photographers at a distance of 200 meters from the plane.

The first returnee to leave the plane was wrapped in a blanket and carried on to a stretcher, which officials loaded into an ambulance. The British diplomat identified the returnee as a woman suffering from stomach pains. Doctors in Hong Kong had certified her as medically fit at the start of her journey, he added.

Officials had to help a few of the others who were weak from not eating, said the diplomat, who requested anonymity.

No reprieve for Dutchman in Singapore

THE HAGUE (Reuter) – Singapore has rejected a final diplomatic appeal to save condemned Dutchman Johannes van Damme from being hanged for heroin trafficking, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van Mierlo said yesterday.

"I have just heard that it has been rejected – that is terrible," Van Mierlo said on Dutch television, hours before the planned execution. "Unless in the very short term exceptionally convincing new facts emerge, I fear nothing more can be done."

The 59-year-old Dutchman looked to have only hours to live yesterday after Singapore authorities rejected a final legal appeal against his hanging and the Dutch clemency plea.

Van Damme was due to go to the gallows at dawn today in Changi jail.

The Dutch foreign ministry said a last-ditch bid by his lawyers for a re-trial had been refused.

Van Damme will be the first Westerner executed in Singapore for drugs offences. He was arrested at Singapore airport in September 1991, with 4.32 kg of heroin in his suitcase. He said during his trial he was carrying the bag for someone else and had not known what it contained.

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The Family

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BASYA (Bessie) LEHMAN

a memorial service will take place at the graveside on Friday, September 30, 1994 at 8:30 a.m., at Har Hazeitim, below Intercontinental Hotel

Sanz Medical Center - Laniado Hospital

We send heartfelt condolences to our dear

Mildred Edelstein

on the untimely passing of her beloved husband

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An *azkara* commemorating the first *yahrzeit* of our beloved

Rabbi MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM ז"ל

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TOURISTS/BUSINESSMEN: beautiful renovated suites/apartments, short/long-term. Rental/Sale. Penthouse, ☎ 03-296754, 03-5285037. 000008

BEAUTIFUL holiday apartments, tourists-/businessmen, short/long term. Dynami, Tel. 03-5468003, Fax. 03-5469667. 000009

BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED apartments! Near beaches/centers. Short/long rentals. Tel. 03-5466920. 017410

5 ROOMS, beautifully furnished, 150 sqm in Neve Avivim Ramat Aviv. "Nineveh" Real Estate ☎ 03-6425291. 016175

SEA-VIEW!!! Beautiful apartment, furnished/unfurnished, short/long-term rentals. Tel. 03-5444272. 016936

PRIVATE, beautifully furnished apartments, near beach/center, short/long term. ☎ 03-5253318, 03-5238173. 017061

TEL AVIV PROMENADE, best location, luxury apartments, sea view, fully air-conditioned, long term. ☎ 02-251580, 02-234022 (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) Fax 02-257280. 017126

SUPER LUXURIOUS APARTMENT and PENTHOUSE on sea, balconies, guard. RENT/SELL Tel 03-5444035 017247

LUXURIOUS FURNISHED APARTMENT AND PENTHOUSE, Gan Ha'ir and near Kikar Hamedina Rent/Sell Tel 03-5444035 017248

JAFFA, SUPERB HOUSE, magnificent patio, *RENT/SELL* Tel 03-5444035 017249

RAMAT AVIV GIMMEL, 4/5 luxurious furnished/unfurnished, for rent or sale. *"Yael Realtor"* ☎ 03-6426253 *(Maldan)* 017434

IN CENTER OF Tel Aviv, roof apartment, high floor + panoramic view, 270sqm, $3500, Immediate. ☎ 03-6481387 017050

TOURIST/BUSINESS, 2 renovated, furnished, with cable T.V. and air conditioning, well located. ☎ 09-697156. 017469

CENTRAL, North Tel Aviv, all sizes, choice apartments, excellent condition. ☎ 03-5233592. 017475

4, BAR KOCHVA, invested, quiet, parking, elevator, exclusive, $315,000. Agent ☎ 03-5233592. 017481

SALES

FOR RENT:
★ 2 rooms, furnished, close to university, $650
★ 4 rooms, view, in Gimel, $1,200.
★ Sea & Sun apartment, on the beach, with view, $1,500.
FOR SALE:
★ 5 rooms, Aleka, $439,000, immaculate!
★ Mini penthouse, great view, close to university, excellent investment, $320,000.
★ Penthouse, Ramat Aviv Gimel, large balcony, sea view, $850,000.
ANGLO-SAXON
REAL ESTATE AGENCY LTD. AHIMEIR ST. (SHOP 3) RAMAT AVIV GIMEL
TEL 03-6424310, FAX 03-6417168

NORTH DIZENGOFF, 4 new, top floor + elevator, sea-view, ☎ 03-5444232 017070

PRESTIGEOUS NORTH TEL AVIV! 300 sq.m., luxurious, + balconies, sea view. Nadlan Eytan, 03-5255031. 016957

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3 bdrm. 1.5 bathroom, 2-storey cottage with marble flooring, corner jacuzzi, gorgeous kitchen complete with stove, micro, and oven, totally air-conditioned/heated, beautiful garden and short walk to the beach and country club. Price: $310,000
Fully furnished cottages near the beach, available for short term rental at $100-$125/daily.
Brand new semi-detached with sea view, nice details, 4 bedrooms. 2.5 bathrooms, corner plot of half dunam. Price: $490,000.
Pardes Hannah
Cozy 4 bedroom wooden home with nice kitchen on plot of over half dunam with charming garden. Needs a tad of TLC. For quick buyer, great price of $159,000.
Call us about our other special homes in Pardes Hannah/Karkur, Binyamina and Zichron Ya'acov, starting at $165,000
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MALIN

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in prestigious neighborhood (number 2) near beach.
Large living room, breakfast room, dining room, kitchen, den and bedroom.
1200 sq. meter plot, with building rights, $760,000.
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Executor of the Estate of Ari Newman
Advocate Mark Sherman Tel: 02-635220
MALIN

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★ Wonderful position opp. the Roman aqueduct. Oriental-style villa on a large plot. Needs renovation. $1,150,000.
★ Zichron Yaakov, new villa on half-dunam plot. $310,000.
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★ For rent: Magnificent villa, fantastic sea views, $2,000 a month.
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SALE! * Apartment - 5 nice rooms, like new kichen, elevated building, pkg, AC $198,000
SALE! * Apartment ????! - It's really a lovely 5 room ranch (1 floor) house of 140 sq. m. and a 300 sq. m. garden with an oversized picnic patio, private covered pkg, quiet position , conv to all schools & shopping $345,000
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$1200 per sq.m. in exclusive residential area in
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RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Notices in this feature, which appears every Friday, are charged at NIS23.70 per line, including VAT. Insertion every Friday of the month costs NIS77.20 per line, including VAT.

	Shabbat begins	Shabbat ends
Jerusalem	4:59 p.m.	6:10 p.m.
Tel Aviv	5:17 p.m.	6:12 p.m.
Haifa	5:09 p.m.	6:11 p.m.
Beersheba	5:15 p.m.	6:12 p.m.
Eilat	5:14 p.m.	6:11 p.m.

JERUSALEM

MORESHET YISRAEL - Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri. Minha 5:20. Sat. Shaharit 8:30. Minha 5:15. **SIMHAT TORA:** Mon. Minha 5:15. Tue. Shaharit 8:30. Minha 5:20 Daily at 7:00 a.m.

HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive) 16 Shmuel Hanagid, Tel. 02-253841. Friday evening 5:30. Shabbat morning: 9:30. **SIMHAT TORA:** Mon. Ma'ariv 5:30. Tue. Shaharit 9:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

JERUSALEM

REDEEMER CHURCH, Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10.30 a.m. Tel. 894750, 281049.

BAPTIST CONGREGATION, 4 Narkis, West Jerusalem. Saturday Bible study 9:00 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Tel. 255942.

BAPTIST CHURCH (Independent), Maronite Convent Rd. (Jaffa Gate). Every Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Tel. 050-311891.

ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal), 32 Shivtei Yisrael. 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Tel. 02-717988.

KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY, YMCA Auditorium, 26 King David St. Tel. 610017. Sunday, 6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun. Tel. 02-828964.

TEL AVIV

IMMANUEL CHURCH (Lutheran), Tel Aviv-Yafo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman (near 17 Rehov Eilat) Tel. 820654. Saturday service *11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at* 10 a.m.

HAIFA

BEIT ELIAHU (Evangelical Messianic Congregation) Haifa, 43 Meir Street, Tel. 04-523581. Sat. service 11 a.m.

OTHER CENTERS

BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION, 3 km. north of Petah Tikva, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Saturday 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-574661.

WHERE TO GO

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JERUSALEM

Conducted Tours

Tourists and Visitors. Come and see the General Israel Orphans Home for Girls, Jerusalem, its manifold activities, and impressively modern buildings. Free guided tours weekdays, 9-12. Bus no. 14, 24 or 5, Kiryat Moshe. ☎ 523291.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

AMIT Women. For a free conducted tour of our installations, call Jerusalem 619222; Tel Aviv 5233154. *Hours: 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.,* Sun.-Thur.

Conducted Tours

ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

TEL AVIV

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

ARTGUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish Community in the Old City, mid-19th century - World War II. 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter. Old City. Sun.-Thur. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Pamela Levy: Paintings 1983-94♦Drawn to the City - video documentary on Pamela Levy♦Adam Berg: Perseus' Hysteria - Adam Berg. Focuses on the museum's function as a viewing space♦A Fence of Cypresses, Fruit of Time, Mr. Sweety - works by Itzchak Golombek, Michal Na'aman, Gil Shachar and others♦Separate Worlds - original, nonconforming work from the past year♦17th Century Dutch Family Portraits♦16th-19th Cent. European Art♦Impressionism, Post-Impressionism♦Jewish Artists in Europe between the Wars♦Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.♦Sculpture♦20th Cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Lorna Simpson: For the Sake of the Viewer - photography exhibition♦90→70→90 - local contemporary activity in photograph. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center,** Tel. 6919155.

HAIFA

Museums

THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael♦Temp. Exh.: *Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period*♦Impressionism and the Jewish School of Paris (works by Modigniani, Monet, Pissaro, Soutine, Struk and others)♦"Purity Broke Out in Israel" - Stone Vessels of the late Second Temple period. Open Sun.-Thur. 10-4; Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2. ADMISSION FREE.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, September 23

Jerusalem: Herzl, 36 Jaffa, 255059; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282056.
Tel Aviv: Sanitas, 83 Ibn Gvirol, 5246003; Fuller, 44 Basel, 5462878.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Haragil, 47 Rothschild, Kfar Sava, 959086.
Netanya: Neot Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 352484.
Krayot area: Niv Ata, 18 Hankin, Kiryat Ata, 441626.
Haifa: Balfour, 1 Massada, 622289.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, September 24

Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706660; (evening) Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim,

- Bargain of the week!!! 4 rooms on Hayarkon Street, opposite park and Hilton, 150 sq. m., elevator, parking, 1st floor.
- Facing Independence Park, selection of luxurious apartments.
- 3 rooms in quiet location near Kikar Hamedina, 120 sq. m., 1st floor, $290,000
- Dizengoff and Frishman, selection of new roof apartments, spacious, elevator, parking, starting from $290,000
- Another bargain!!! In Florintin area, roof apartment, elevator, parking, quiet location $214,000

ANGLO-SAXON
REAL ESTATE AGENCY LTD., 44 HEY BEIYAR ST. KIKAR HAMEDINA, TEL AVIV. TEL. 03-5467722, FAX 03-5467674

FOR SERIOUS ONLY, in the Revivim neighborhood (near Tzhalah), 4 rooms + separate unit, many improvements, prime location, quiet. $379,000. ☎ 03-5464308 (Agent) 017370

BARGAIN!! Beautiful Duplex penthouse with seaview, brand new. Must be seen to be appreciated. $445,000. ☎ 03-5252272,050-218004. 017404

NEW LUXURY apartments 3-4 rooms, next to sea. ☎ 050-272835 017373

BAVLI, 4, ROOF apartment, doorman, pool, balcony. $550,000. "Girsch" ☎ 03-5444331. 017463

HOLIDAY APTS.

TOURISTS! IN TEL AVIV!! lovely furnished apartments/ studio, air-conditioned, short-term. ☎ 03-6817358. 017139

SERVICES

HEALTH

YOUR body healthy with a good massage. Phone Lolit 03-6048315. 017464

SITS. VAC.

A GOOD ENGRAVER for a full time job in Tel Aviv. send your hand- written Curriculum Vitae to: POB 20359, Tel Aviv, 61203 017471

OFFICE STAFF

TYPIST WANTED, English/Hebrew, full-time position. ☎ 03-5644127 (Ori) 017430

PART-TIME, 25 hrs., English secretary, insurance company, wordprocessing and dictation, tel. 03-6963719. 017459

PART-TIME, 25 hrs., English secretary, insurance company, wordprocessing and dictation, tel. 03-6963719. 017467

IMPORT ADMINISTRATOR, E/H fluent, knowledge: international freight, computers, music. ☎ 03-5562212, Orly. 017466

SECRETARY, word processing E/H, driving license, flexible hours. ☎ 03-5562212, Orly. 017465

BANK seeks permanent English Swift operator. ☎ 03-664933. 017507

HOUSEHOLD HELP

FILIPINA
sought for superior type of work.
Excellent terms;
work permit and visa.
03-546 9122

LIVELY EUROPEAN FAMILY requires live-in au pair (same temperament) for interesting job!!! European/South African/Far East (female), $700 minimum, long-term, Urgent!!. Interested?? Veronica ☎ 03-6190423. 017397

AU PAIR NEEDED for a family with 2 daughters, age 6.5 and 5. References and experience required. ☎ 02-8475219. 017104

Required Urgently:
Experienced Metapelet
for 3 1/2-month-old twins
live-in, good conditions.
Call 03-5755583.

NEEDED AU PAIR, very good conditions, live-in/out, $750. ☎ 03-9326596. 017148

GLOBAL MANPOWER seeks metaplot for childcare, nurses, housecleaners, live-in/out. ☎ 03-5230111. 017182

EXPERIENCED live-in housekeeper + references, good conditions. Tel Aviv. 03-6475265, 050-226775 017376

AU PAIR, live-in, excellent conditions, 03-5348921, 03-5347178 (Ella). 012286

WE REQUIRE an English woman to look after two girls,10 and 8 (spent 5 years in England, hours 1-5 p.m. ☎ 03-5406992. 016877

FULL TIME housekeeper in Ramat Aviv, possible live-in + references. 03-6414851 017426

EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER, live out, 5 times per week. ☎ 03-6426233 (evening). References required. 017446

WANTED couple or serious woman for sleep-in housekeeping, with excellent recommendations. ☎ 03-6955222, Mrs. Bardugo. 017452

AU PAIR live-in/out, experience with children, recommendations, Ramat Aviv. Tel. 03-6424408 017454

WANTED FILIPINA household help from Saturday noon to Sunday evening. ☎ 03-5237814. 017458

IMMEDIATE jobs available, the au pair agency with a difference for almost 10 years now. Call Hilma ☎ 03-9659937. 017457

DEVOTED AND EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER, cleaning & cooking, live-in/out. ☎ 03-6424554. 017455

GOOD CONDITIONS for au pair, live-out, baby + 3-year-old. ☎ 03-6042753. 017503

RESPONSIBLE live-in au-pair in Ramat Aviv-Gimel, good conditions. ☎ 03-6411785. 017534

TEACHERS

ENGLISH TEACHERS for children/adult courses. Good conditions, Central area. 03-6991169 017356

LOVELY FAMILY in central Tel Aviv seeks Indian/South American housekeeper, live-in , $850, ☎ 03-291748. 017458

SITS. WANTED

SUPER SALESLADY with extensive marketing experience and dynamic personality seeks interesting and lucrative work immediately. Tel Aviv or Netanya. ☎ 03-5610089. S. Alkalai, 120 Ahad Ha'am St., Tel Aviv, 65208. 017509

PURCHASE/SALE

24 FT. DUFOUR SAILING YACHT, excellent condition. Call 03-9618765 (business), 09-426711. 017116

PERSONALS

VERY ATTRACTIVE, blonde slender, youthful, vivacious widow 1.69 tall of European origin seeks partner of similar cultural background, max 69. Tel. 09-828983 Ruth. 017467

MATRIMONIAL

JEWISH WIDOW, age 40, European, looking for sociable, cultured, employed, established partner. Include tel. no. in reply: P.O.B. 49033, T.A. - Jaffa. 017525

VEHICLES

UNRESTRICTED

SUBARU 1600, 1990, automatic, power-steering, orthopedic seat, first-hand. ☎ 03-881115, 03-5031155. 017514

PASSPORT

HONDA CIVIC DX, 1993, white, 4 doors, 14,000 KM. ☎ 03-5175431 (evenings) 017267

DAN REGION

DWELLINGS

RENTALS

BAT YAM, NEAR THE SEA, 4.5 rooms, long/short term, immediate! ☎ 02-244415; 02-619850. 017412

SITS. VAC.

HOUSEHOLD HELP

HOUSEKEEPER in Savyon, live-in, recommendations and experience required. Tel. 03-5345751 017357

LIVE-IN, 2 EASY CHILDREN, Herzliya Pituah, recommendations, great salary. ☎ 09-571808. 017455

METAPELET for one-year old boy, dedicated, experienced + references, in Givatayim. ☎ 03-5716579. 017489

PERSONALS

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SHARON AREA

DWELLINGS

NETANYA
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- SHLOMO HAMELECH. Modern 4 rooms with glimpse of sea $165,000
- JABOTINSKY. Uniquely furnished large 3 room apartment overlooking the Mediterranean sea. $240,000
- NITZA. Luxury 3 rooms in Shapira Towers. $250,000
- NITZA. Modern Kosher apartment. Balcony. Seaviews from 4 rooms. Swimming pool. $335,000
- BIGGEST SELECTION of properties for SALE and RENT in NETANYA.

ANGLO-SAXON REAL ESTATE AGENCY LTD
33 Dizengoff St.
Tel. 09-616716, 824802, 628684

CHOICE VILLAS AND PENTHOUSES for sale/rent in Herzliya Pituach, Kfar Shmaryahu, and Tel Aviv. Ilam Real Estate, ☎ 09-589611. 020579

RA'ANANA
- $160,000: Just released 2-room apartment in luxury block.
- $185,000: Har Sinai St. - 3 room apartment with elevator and parking.
- $195,000: 4 room renovated rooftop apartment - building rights to build on roof.
- $289,000: Choice of 2 large 5 room apartments in good locations with balconies.
- $450,000: spacious modern home in quiet location. Just move in.
- Rental: 200 sq.m. - Ahuza, central, immediate. (Offices or showroom).

ANGLO-SAXON
141 AHUZA ST., RA'ANANA
TEL. 09-454133/454335

RENTALS

HERZLIYA PITUACH/ Netanya/ Beautiful apartments and villas, near beaches, short/ long-term rentals. Fully equipped. ☎ 03-5468920.

FOR RENT in Herzliya Pituach, excellent location + swimming pool. "Bayit Vegan" 09-580349, 09-571391. 017411

KFAR SAVA, luxurious villa, 7, central air-conditioning, $1,600. ☎ 03-5494468. 017095

HERZLIYA PITUACH, new house, for two years. ☎ 09-582135, 09-588015. 017158

RA'ANANA - Levhapark, duplex penthouse, 5, immediate, $805, view. ☎ 02-637768, 02-931178 (NS). 017160

HERZLIYA PITUACH, exclusive villa, 8, swimming pool, basement and lovely garden. "Friedman Realty" 09-508032. 017349

RAANANA, penthouse for long-term lease, 250 sqm, excellent condition. ☎ 09-988895 017385

HERZLIYA HEIGHTS, 2 + view, air-conditioning, furnished, pool + tennis. Anglo Saxon ☎ 09-562256. 017453

HERZLIYA PITUACH, 3 bedroom house, 1 level, unfurnished, beautiful garden, excellent location. tel. 09-559828. 017288

RAMAT HASHARON (WEST), cottage, luxurious, a/c, fully furnished, immediate, long-term, $3,000. 050-335070, 03-5495940. 017470

RAMAT HASHARON, luxurious penthouse!!, new + elevator, view, unfurnished-/completely furnished Anglo-Saxon ☎ 03-5403484. 017492

SALES

Tivuch Leumi Netanya

SHARETT ST. - 3 rooms + roof, super sea view - great value at $148,000

JABOTINSKI ST. - Rare, luxurious, 3 room penthouse; amazing view. Only $190,000

NITZA BLVD. - Spacious, 4 room apartment, must be seen. Worth the price: $200,000

GAD MACHNES ST. - 4 rooms, like new, overlooks park and sea. $235,000

RAMAT POLEG - 4 room apartments, luxurious building. Prices from $171,000

RAMAT POLEG - 6 room cottages + basement, prime position near sea and country club. From $323,000

TIVUCH LEUMI - NETANYA
5 Herzl St. (next to Bank Leumi)
Tel. 09-341197, 344412, Fax. 09-345503

HERZLIYA PITUACH, selection of luxurious villas for sale/rent. "Shashoua" Tel. 03-570878 (Maidan) 017097

HERZLIYA PITUACH, new villa near the sea, 3 main bedrooms, family room, living room and basement. Anglo-Saxon ☎ 09-582256. 017092

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"way above the rest"
GORGEOUS PENTHOUSE
- GORGEOUS PENTHOUSE under construction, 200 sq.m., with 2 parking spaces. ONLY $355,000
- HAR SINAI ST., 5 room apartment, 3rd floor, elevator, 150 sq.m., super sun balcony. ONLY $255,000
- ON EXCLUSIVE YEHUDA HALEVY ST., magnificent, outstandingly luxurious, 6 room cottage, with basement, 2 years old; must be seen. GREAT VALUE AT $610,000

179 AHUZA ST., RA'ANANA
TEL. 09-936-599

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HERZLIYA PITUACH, luxury houses for sale/rent. Nurit Realty ☎ 09-556570. 017128

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Each villa combines an ultra-modern interior on 3 levels with a beautiful private garden & heated swimming-pool and is close to the beach and to all amenities. Magnificent living spaces 9 bright, spacious rooms emphasising -
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MALIN

CAESARIA LUXURIOUS VILLA, swimming pool, interesting! Tel. OFER 03-5444035. 017280

NETANYA, luxurious duplex on the sea. Pool, tennis, 6 rooms + balcony 50 sqm, 4 bathrooms, jacuzzi, central air-conditioning, underground parking. 09-615496. 017288

ATLIT, special home, 115 m. + garden, 525 m. plot. Wonderful seascape. ☎ 09-522171. 017284

FOR SALE in Raanana, 4-5 rooms, , good location, no agents. ☎ 09-426066 017370

NETANYA, DUPLEX, 4, luxurious & remodeled, walking distance from the sea + large garden porch. ☎ 09-34032. 017402

NEAR NETANYA, house duplex, 4 + balcony, 80sqm, garden, $130,000. ☎ 09-689096 017403

HERZLIYA PITUACH, spacious villa near sea, $3,500. Evergreen (Maidan) ☎ 09-572383. 017540

HERZLIYA PITUACH, best location, house on 1/2 dunam, $850,000. Exclusive Evergreen (Maidan) ☎ 09-572383. 017541

PRIVATE PLOTS for luxurious building in Kadima. ☎ 02-734641, 09-690205. 017537

ROOMMATES

HOUSEMATE TO SHARE FURNISHED 2-bedroom moshav house. Ra'anana. ☎ 09-432825, evenings. 017480

HOLIDAY APTS.

NETANYA, furnished 3 bedroom holiday apartment, garden, near beach/center, kosher. ☎ 03-5254048 (days), 09-432254 (evenings), Fax.03-5254233. 017197

SERVICES

BUSINESS

TAL BUSINESS and Office Services will serve as your base + representation plus office space for meetings. ☎ 09-555551 017240

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Congress demands end to strike

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – Major League Baseball owners and players were warned yesterday to settle the strike that cut short this season and canceled the World Series for the first time in 90 years or Congress would have to act.

"The parties-in-interest may have run away from their obligations to the fans of the country for a few months; but they can't run away from Congress for long," Jack Brooks, chairman of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, told acting Commissioner Bud Selig and players' negotiator Donald Fehr at a hearing.

The players went on strike August 12 to protest a plan by owners to impose a cap on salaries. The owners last week canceled the rest of the regular season through October 2 and the post-season playoffs and World Series.

It was the eighth time in the last 22 years that play has been stopped by a labor dispute and the first time since 1904 that the World Series will not be played.

"I think both sides have acted like spoiled children," said Oklahoma Democrat Mike Synar, while New York Republican Hamilton Fish told Selig and Fehr, "It is not just your game, the game belongs to all Americans."

Los Angeles Dodger pitcher Orel Hershiser, testifying for the players, said, "I can assure you we would prefer to be playing baseball rather than appearing before this committee."

Hershiser said the players wanted Congress to repeal baseball's antitrust exemption, granted by the Supreme Court in 1922, so they would have equal rights with other US professional athletes. Some committee members agreed.



BASEBALL BRASS – Acting Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig (r) talks with Houston Astros owner Drayton McClain before the start of hearings of the House Judiciary Committee. (Reuter)

"By doing nothing, we are allowing the owners a special entitlement," Colorado Democrat Patricia Schroeder said.

Brooks, a Texas Democrat, said he did not support antitrust exemptions, which effectively restricts players from taking the owners to court.

Selig, who owns the Milwaukee Brewers, said he hated to cancel the rest of the season but felt it would be wrong to give in to the players without an agreement to reduce the growth in salaries that was putting many teams in economic trouble. "No one hurts more than I do right now," he said.

He said the strike could only be settled by collective bargaining, not by repealing the antitrust exemption.

"I am optimistic that we will reach an agreement with the union in 1994. I believe that the 1995 Major League season will open on time with members of the Major League Baseball Players Association filling the clubs' rosters," Selig said.

But Fehr disagreed, saying, "Unlike Mr. Selig, I am not even remotely optimistic that there will be an agreement in the short term.

"This is a cartel. The owners believe they are above the law. Clearly the exemption should go," Fehr said.

There would be more pressure on Congress to act next year if the strike was still in progress, jeopardizing the start of the 1995 season in April.

Bloom starts in Davis Cup vs. Dewulf

ORI LEWIS

ISRAEL'S Davis Cup tennis side embarks on another quest to stay in the peak of men's international tennis today in a crucial tie against Belgium.

At stake is a place in the World Group, the world's top 16 tennis nations.

In the draw made yesterday at the Israel Tennis Center at Ramat Hasharon, Gilad Bloom, Israel's No. 2 will be first on court at noon today when he takes on Belgian No. 1 Filip Dewulf, followed by Israel No. 1 Amos Mansdorf who faces newcomer Christophe van Garsse.

Bloom, aged 27 and ranked at 202 in the IBM/ATP Tour rankings will not have an easy time against 22-year-old Dewulf (123). The Israeli is very tough to beat on what he considers to be his very own court, but the lack of competition at the highest of levels could be a serious setback.

The stocky Israeli lefthander will be relying heavily on the crowd to bolster his game. The boisterous Ramat Hasharon fans have been known to help sway a game in Bloom's favor on many occasions.

Mansdorf's match against Van Garsse, on paper at least, should be no more than a formality. The Israeli, now ranked at 65, takes on an opponent ranked at 173.

But while Mansdorf, 29, has recently announced his intention to retire from full-time professional play at the end of the year, Van Garsse at 20 is young, hungry and most important, has nothing to lose.

The Israelis would have much preferred to have Mansdorf play first, thus giving Bloom the psychological cushion of playing with a 1-0 advantage behind him. But the camp – as always – is not putting too much emphasis on the draw.

"We all have to play each other, so it really doesn't make any difference" Mansdorf said yesterday.

Team captain Shlomo Glickstein was even more blunt. "The draw is of no importance. We have to win three rubbers and that's it," he said.

Belgian team captain, Argentine-born Eduardo Masso was buoyant after the outcome of the draw.

"We have been here for a week already. We came here early so that we could get used to the hot conditions and we did not intend this to be a holiday.

"The pressure is on Israel, they are the favorites to win but we are not discounting our chances," Masso said.

The reverse singles on Sunday has Mansdorf playing Dewulf while Bloom meets Van Garsse.

The doubles encounter tomorrow begins at 2 pm but the captains have up to an hour before the beginning of the match before they name their lineups.

Glickstein is likely to name Mansdorf together with 17-year-old Eyal Erlich, while Masso could include Libor Pimek, a 31-year-old veteran ranked 54 in the world doubles rankings.

This is the fourth Davis Cup meeting between the two nations, the last encounter being in Brussels in 1991 when the Belgians won 4-1 and consequently knocked Israel out of the World Group after five years. It took a further two years before Mansdorf and Bloom managed to pull Israel back to the top-16.

Subsequently, Israel lost to the Czech Republic in the first round of the current competition, thus needing to beat Belgium in the playoff to remain in the World Group for next year's competition.

The Belgians were a relatively easy draw for the Israelis. Home court advantage, a much higher ranking by Israel's No. 1 compared to the rest of the players and far greater experience on the part of the hosts would appear to tip the scales firmly in favor of Israel.

But Davis Cup play is a law unto itself and the best-of-five-set matches including an uncanny disregard of the rankings, often produce unlikely results.

Israel cannot afford to be complacent. The Belgians may seem to have the odds stacked against them, but they also have nothing to lose.

Bnei Yehuda aims to hold perfect record

DEREK FATTAL

THE fourth weekend of the National League soccer season gets under way tomorrow with Bnei Yehuda heading the field with the only 100 percent record in the top division. Hatikva Quarter fans will be looking for their side to collect another scalp in its meeting against Hapoel Beit She'an.

The newly-promoted Beit She'an outfit looked strong last week, almost beating Hapoel Tel Aviv at Bloomfield, and could make this the league leader's toughest match so far this campaign.

Hapoel Petah Tikva has also burned rubber to make a smart getaway from the starting grid. With two wins and a draw already to its credit, the club should provide plenty of headaches for Maccabi Tel Aviv, which has Avi Nimni and Amir Shelach suspended following the barrage of red cards dished out in last weekend's match against Maccabi Haifa.

As a result of that episode, Maccabi Haifa has to get by without the services of captain Alon Hazan and center back Oleg Kutnetsov for its difficult away fixture against Hapoel Beersheba.

At least the Haifa supporters can breathe a sigh of relief with the news that main playmaker Eyal Berkowitz is set to stay on the club's books this season, as his planned transfer to Dutch side Feyernood fell through earlier this week.

Second Division champion Ironi Rishon Lezion holds third place, and gave its supporters plenty of reason to uncork the bottles following a hard-fought win over Betar Jerusalem last weekend. Opponents Hapoel Haifa may have coach Dror Kashtan sidelined following his admission to hospital this week for heart treatment.

Tomorrow's National League Fixtures (kick-off 3.30 pm unless otherwise stated): Hapoel Beersheba vs. Maccabi Haifa, Beersheba; Maccabi Petah Tikva vs. Zafririm Holon, Petah Tikvah; Hapoel Beit She'an vs. Bnei Yehuda, Tiberias; Betar Tel Aviv vs. Betar Jerusalem, National Stadium, Ramat Gan, 4 pm; Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Petah Tikva, National Stadium, Ramat Gan, 6 pm; Hapoel Haifa vs. Ironi Rishon, Kiryat Eliezer, 6 pm; Ironi Ashdod vs. Maccabi Netanya, Ashdod, 6 pm.

TODAY ON CABLE TV

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Bodies in motion 9:00 Dutch league soccer 10:30 Argentinian league soccer 11:45 Brazilian league soccer 13:30 Australian football 15:00 WWF 16:00 Bushido 17:00 Mondial 17:30 European soccer magazine 18:30 (to be announced) 19:00 NFL 20:00 Snooker 21:00 (to be announced) 23:30 European soccer magazine

EUROSPORT

8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Mountain bike 10:00 Leisure sports 11:00 Motoring magazine 12:00 Canoeing 13:00 Live Formula 1 from Portugal 14:00 International motoring magazine 15:00 Motorcycle magazine 15:30 Davis Cup semifinal: Sweden v US 19:30 Eurosport news 20:00 Formula 1 from Portugal 21:00 Boxing 23:00 Davis Cup semifinal 00:30 Motorcycle magazine 1:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORT

6:30 Windsurfing 7:00 Golf 9:00 Tennis from Germany 10:00 NBA behind the scenes 10:30 Baseball 94 11:00 WWF 12:00 Live Asian soccer: first semifinal 14:00 Live Asian soccer: second semifinal 16:00 Live Independence Cup soccer: third place 18:00 Live Independence Cup soccer final 20:00 WWF 21:00 NBA behind the scenes 21:30 Baseball 94 22:00 Golf 1:00 Asian soccer show

SATURDAY

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Table tennis 9:30 Spanish league soccer 11:00 Mondial 11:30 European soccer magazine 12:30 English league soccer 13:30 NFL 14:30 World rugby 15:30 NBA replay 16:30 (to be announced) 18:30 National jet-ski competition 19:00 Mondial 19:30 WWF 20:30 Live Israeli basketball: Hapoel Galil Elyon v Maccabi TA 22:00 Israeli soccer 23:00 Bushido 00:00 Israeli basketball: Hapoel Galil Elyon v Maccabi TA

EUROSPORT

8:30 Aerobics 9:00 ATP 9:30 Davis Cup highlights 11:00 WWF 12:00 Canoeing 13:00 Live Formula 1 from Portugal 14:00 Davis Cup highlights 18:30 Formula 1 19:30 Formula 3000 20:00 Golf 22:00 Formula 1 highlights 23:00 Live canoeing from Mexico 1:00 International motoring magazine

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Independence Cup soccer: third place 8:00 Independence Cup soccer final 10:00 Asian soccer show 11:00 International sports magazine 12:00 Live Africa-Asia soccer 14:00 WWF 15:00 Chinese, basketball 17:00 European soccer show 18:00 Horse racing 18:30 International sports magazine 19:30 Asian soccer show 20:30 WWF 21:30 European soccer show 22:30 Chinese basketball 00:30 International sports magazine 1:00 European soccer show

SPORTS BRIEFS

NHL may delay season

The NHL will delay the October 1 start of the season with a lockout if the players' union and owners are unable to agree on a new contract by then, commissioner Gary Bettman said yesterday.

With the season set to start a week from tomorrow, Bettman made his announcement during a conference call following two days of failed negotiations with Bob Goodenow, executive director of the NHL Players' Association.

O'Neill considering playing in Japan

New York Yankees outfielder Paul O'Neill said he would seriously explore playing in Japan if the Major League Baseball labor crisis threatens next season, according to a published report.

O'Neill, whose .359 batting average was the best in the American League this season, said yesterday Japan might be an option if it looked like the 1995 season could be fragmented or canceled.

Kitson transfer to Newcastle falls through

Striker Paul Kitson's £2.25 million pound ($3.5 million) move to English Premier League leaders Newcastle United collapsed yesterday because of differences over personal terms.

Newcastle's chief executive Freddie Fletcher said the deal was now "dead and buried" and the Derby County player left the club's St. James's Park ground without signing.

Larwood collapses after receiving citation

Former England cricketer Harold Larwood, terror of Australian batsmen for his "bodyline" bowling during the 1930s, collapsed after receiving a royal honor yesterday, but recovered shortly afterwards.

Larwood, 89, was resting at home after picking up his Member of the British Empire (MBE) citation for services to cricket from the governor of New South Wales.

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Journalist seeks to name heads of GSS, Mossad

EVELYN GORDON

THERE is no reason to forbid publication of the names of the heads of the General Security Service and the Mossad, since they have appeared in mass-circulation publications throughout the world, a petition to the High Court of Justice argued yesterday.

The petition, by reporter Yossi Melman, attacked the military censor's decision to remove these names from Melman's September 8 *Ha'aretz* article.

Melman pointed out that both names were published in the widely respected British journal *Foreign Report* a year ago. This journal has tens of thousands of subscribers, and is particularly popular in diplomatic and intelligence circles, the petition noted.

Since then, the names have been published in numerous other places. Melman cited the *Foreign Report* data in an article he wrote in June for the *Los Angeles Times* – which has a circulation of 1.5 million and is offered as a wire service to news agencies throughout the world.

The AFP, one of the world's largest wire services, also quoted these names from *Foreign Report*, the petition said.

The information was even published by the Arab Press Service Organization, a wire service distributed in all the Arab countries, and is also included in the Nexis database, which is available to anyone who cares to pay the fee and log in, the petition added.

Finally, the petition said, the information is also already available in Israel, since it is included in the book *Friends in Deed*, co-authored by Melman and Dan Raviv, which is marketed in Israel by Steimatsky's.

In light of all this, there is no legitimate reason for the censor to ban the publication of the names in *Ha'aretz*, the petition argued. Doing so will not keep the information from any hostile party who wants to find it out, Melman said, and merely keeps the Israeli public in the dark.

"This is reminiscent of the restriction of information by totalitarian states, in which the regime keeps information from its citizens," the petition stated.



Some of the 20,000 participants in yesterday's annual Hapoel Jerusalem March, including a contingent from Tanzania. (Stein/Harari)

Man admits smuggling 3,000 LSD tabs

A BEERSHEBA resident who was arrested in connection with a drug ring confessed yesterday to smuggling 3,000 LSD tabs from England. Marcel Sa'adan, 50, said he had acted alone and had no connection to the other three suspects, including his wife, who have been arrested in the case.

The LSD has been valued at NIS 300,000. The drugs were found in a shipment of children's books. The four suspects all had their remands extended for 12 days yesterday by the Beersheba Magistrate's Court.

Sa'adan told police he would admit to the smuggling if the other suspects were released. His wife, Michelle, is a British immigrant who police there say was convicted on drug charges. (Itim)

Thousands attend president's open house

BATSHEVA TSUR

President Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma yesterday opened the succa at Beit Hanassi to the public, and the people of Israel – and many from abroad – came in droves. For close to five hours, the presidential couple stood on their feet greeting every visitor with a warm word and a handshake.

New immigrants, cancer-stricken children in wheelchairs, volunteer groups, IDF veterans, small children shyly clutching their parents, teenagers, and others from all walks of life waited patiently in line for hours to savor the few seconds of presidential attention that would perhaps never be forgotten.

Many brought small gifts: portraits of Weizman painted from photographs, bunches of flowers, blessings for peace. All were clearly moved by the occasion. Some walked out holding the hand that had shaken the presidential hand as if it would never be the same again.

"That really took me by surprise!" Weizman declared as Sarah Harit, an elderly woman from Afula, her head covered with a kerchief, smacked two hearty kisses on each of his cheeks.

"May you be president until you're 120," added Leah Mualem, of Yirvaha near Kiryat Gat.

A group of Negev Beduin entered in flowing robes as the Kiryat Yam Youth Orchestra played a popular Hebrew hit. "We've come to greet our president and participate in the festival which is a festival for all the people of Israel," said Suleiman Abu-Hamid, who added wishes for a year of peace.

"He was really nice," Yoel Orenstein, 12, who came with his family from Beersheba, said. "He wanted to know when I'll be celebrating my bar mitzva."

"Our family name is also Weizman," said Limor, 9, of Jerusalem. "But our family comes from Morocco. Perhaps we have common relatives from way back in Spain."

Dr. Radhika Raylawat of Nepal looked festive in her national dress. She came with a group of 20 students from Asian, African, and Latin American countries who are studying in a master's degree in public health program at Hadassah-University Hospital.

Many of the new immigrants from Yemen, Ethiopia, and the CIS who were brought from their absorption centers, confessed they had never dreamed they would meet the president. But Yitzhak Chatruk who made aliya last year from Yekaterinburg was meeting his second president. "I had worked there with Boris Yeltsin, before he became a politician," said Chatruk, explaining that the Russian president originated from that city, then known as Sverdlovsk.

It was hot by midday and Davida, age 9, who had been waiting her turn for a long time, asked her mother the question that must have been on many of her peers' minds: "Doesn't the president ever have to go to the bathroom?"

Itim adds:

Some 20,000 participated in yesterday's annual Hapoel Jerusalem March. Among the marchers were workers groups, members of towns and villages throughout the country, and various sports organizations. The International Christian Embassy contributed 4,000 marchers.

Thousands of people from across the country also came to the Western Wall yesterday morning for the annual *Birkat Hakohanim*.

S. Lebanon bomb attack injures three UNIFIL men

DAVID RUDGE

THREE UNIFIL soldiers from were wounded in a roadside b attack south of Tyre early yeste morning.

UNIFIL spokesman Timur G said the soldiers were on mot trol in their jeep near Henni lage when the explosive dev detonated alongside their veh

They managed to radio for s tance and were evacuated to UNIFIL's own hospital at the hea quarters of the international peacekeeping force in Nakoura.

Goksel said the soldiers were in satisfactory condition, although one of them was later transferred to Haifa's Rambam Hospital suffering from eye injuries.

He noted that the incident happened while the troops were traveling along a dirt track in the area which is part of their regular patrol duties.

By last night, no organization had claimed responsibility for the attack.

UNIFIL engineers checked the remains of the bomb, as the peacekeeping force began inquiries to try and discover the perpetrators and the motive behind the attack.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1994

They've gone about as far as they can go

Israel says the Palestinian security service has taken the law into its own hands, and in the wrong place, Bill Hutman reports



One of Jibril Rajoub's bodyguards is brought into Jerusalem Magistrates Court this week. (Isaac Harari)

A wild dinner party early this month that included some high-powered Palestinian figures did far more than disturb the neighbors.

The gathering, at a restaurant in Abu Ghosh, raised eyebrows as far off as Gaza, Jericho and Jerusalem; and its repercussions were even seen as a test of the PLO-Israel peace accord.

The party's host, Palestinian TV head Samih Samara, had previously angered PLO chairman Yasser Arafat for engaging in allegedly "immoral behavior."

At least three other leading Palestinian businessmen from Jerusalem attended the dinner, which lasted late into the night and included heavy drinking and carousing, witnesses said.

After receiving reports of the Abu Ghosh dinner, Arafat ordered Jibril Rajoub, his security chief in Jericho, to investigate, according to a source close to Rajoub.

What happened afterwards depends on whether you ask Rajoub's people or the Jerusalem police.

But one thing is clear – the incident propelled into public attention the question of just how far the government is willing to allow Palestinian authority to extend.

Officials close to Rajoub said Samara was ordered to go to Jericho for questioning over the allegations of his misconduct.

On the evening of Friday, September 9, Samara took a taxi from Jerusalem to the offices of Rajoub's Protective Security Service in Jericho, the officials said.

Samara was questioned over a period of several days and then released, the officials said.

The police, however, said things happened quite differently.

Samara, according to evidence police presented in court this week, was kidnapped by Palestinian security agents, bound in a sheet and taken to Jericho in one of Rajoub's own cars.

The alleged kidnapping took place at the American Colony Hotel in eastern Jerusalem at around 10:30 p.m. on September 9, according to police.

Rajoub's two bodyguards and driver were directly involved, police said. According to one senior police source, Rajoub came to the hotel and personally oversaw the operation.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal said this week that police wanted to question Rajoub over the alleged kidnapping and other activities by his agents in Jerusalem.

The investigation of the Samara affair also led police to at least two other instances when Palestinians from eastern Jerusalem suspected of wrongdoing were forcibly taken by Rajoub's agents to Jericho.

Police sources said one case involved the Abu Assab brothers from the Old City, who were part of a Moslem gang that attacked Christian residents of the Christian Quarter two months ago.

The brothers were taken from their home in the middle of the night by agents of the Protective Security Service, the sources said. They were held for about a month in Jericho.

The sources declined to comment on the second case.

"The Israeli government is the only body with the right to enforce the law in Israel," said Deputy Commander Solomon Amir, head of the Jerusalem police's minorities division.

"No other group has the right to take the law into its own hands," said Amir, in charge of the investigation of the Palestinian security service in eastern Jerusalem.

"According to the Oslo agreement the Palestinian security service has the right to operate only in the autonomous areas of Jericho and Gaza," Amir said.

He charged that Rajoub's agents used threats and violence, particularly during interrogations, to instill fear in the Arab population.

Amir was speaking at the remand hearing Wednesday for Rajoub's two bodyguards and driver, who by chance were detained just hours after the alleged kidnapping of Samara.

The three were stopped at a routine road block in Shuafat at around 2:30 a.m. the morning after Samara was taken to Jericho.

They identified themselves to investigators at the Russian Compound lockup as working for Rajoub, thinking this would clear them of any suspicion of wrongdoing.

They and other agents of Rajoub in Jerusalem and the territories apparently had good reason to believe they were operating with the blessings of Israel.

After setting up its headquarters in Jericho in May, the Protective Security Service quickly spread its operations throughout Judea, Samaria and eastern Jerusalem.

For months the Israeli security forces did nothing, as Rajoub's agents interrogated and sometimes arrested alleged collaborators and criminals outside of Jericho.

Even Jerusalem police, who are today leading the calls for a crackdown on Rajoub, took no action for months while Palestinian security agents operated freely in eastern Jerusalem.

A source close to Rajoub said these activities were all carried out with the approval of the Israeli security forces, who saw him as an important factor in maintaining order.

Prime Minister Rabin appeared to confirm this during the cabinet meeting this week. He hinted to ministers that the Palestinian security service is allowed freedom of operation throughout the territories, and not just in Gaza and Jericho, as stipulated in the Oslo accord.

But by operating in Jerusalem, Rajoub has overstepped his bounds, Rabin added. "[Rajoub] has no freedom of action in sovereign territory," Rabin reportedly told the cabinet.

Ministers understood Rabin to mean that Rajoub's agents were allowed to operate in the territories, but not "sovereign territory" – Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem Post was shown a letter from a senior Defense Ministry official to Rajoub from mid-July, ordering the IDF to give the Palestinian security chief free passage throughout the territories and Israel.

A senior military source confirmed that Rajoub daily left his headquarters in Jericho for locations elsewhere in the territories and Jerusalem.

"I understand the sensitivity of the subject [of Palestinian security officials working outside of Jericho]," Rajoub said during an interview this week. "Especially when it comes to Jerusalem. I don't want to give the right wing excuses to attack the government."

In this roundabout way Rajoub, perhaps for the first time on record, confirmed that his agents operated outside of Jericho.

Until now, he had firmly denied such activity, even when presented with evidence to the contrary.

"Look what I have done in Jericho. Have there been any incidents here? Have there been any shootings?" Rajoub asked rhetorically, proud of the quiet that he has maintained in Jericho.

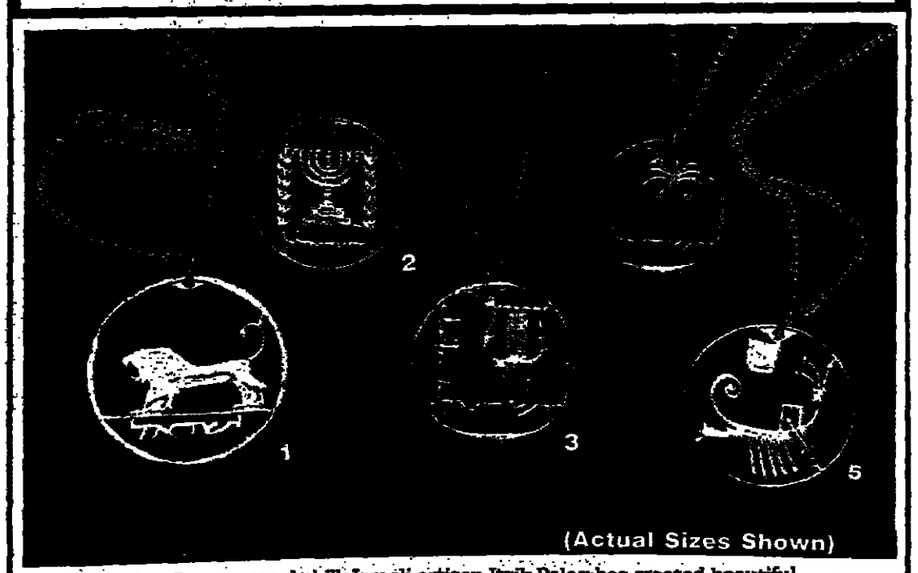
A source close to Rajoub said Israel should be happy with the work of the Protective Security Service in Jericho and elsewhere in the territories.

The service, according to the source, is made up of Fatah supporters committed to the peace process.

Much of its operations outside of Jericho involve resolving criminal disputes that the Israel Police ignored for years, largely because of the restraints of the intifada, the source said.

"I think what Shahal is doing [by calling for my arrest] is irrational," Rajoub said. "I am an active part of the peace process, and to claim I would violate the substance of the process is illogical and unjust."

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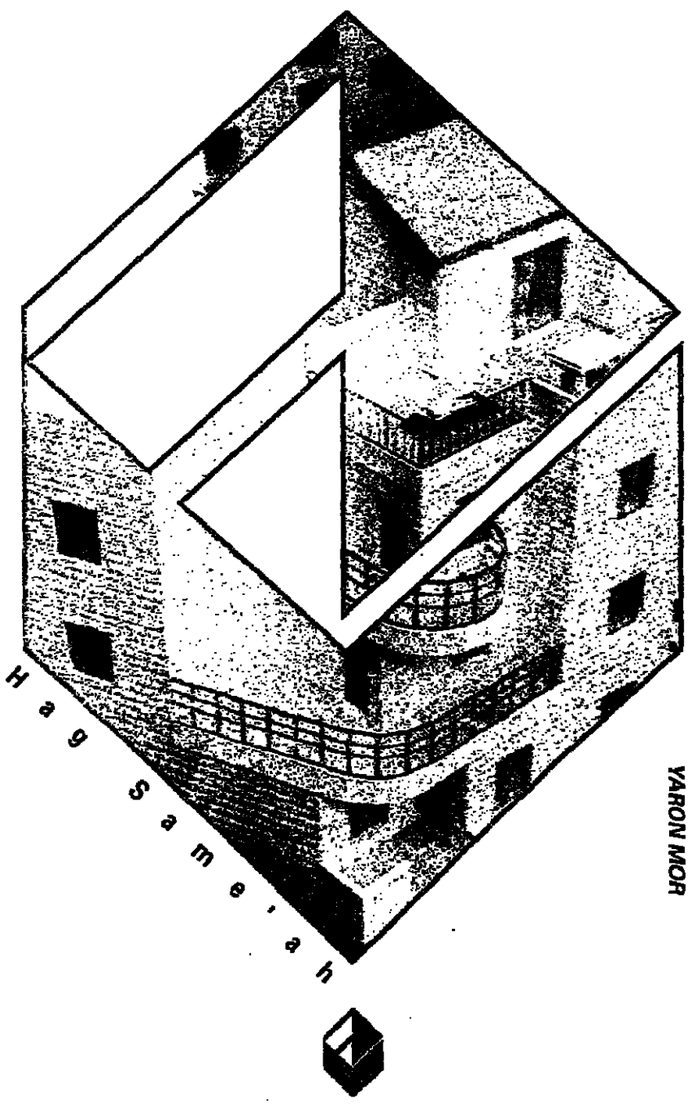
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He works for peace by helping workers

Jacques Neriah's new post at the Histadrut keeps him involved in the peace process. He spoke to **Steve Rodan**

HIS new office is far bigger than the one he had in the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. It also has a better view, looking out over Tel Aviv's tree-lined Arlosoroff Street.

But Jacques Neriah is still doing the same sort of work essentially: introducing Israel to the Arab world. Only his bosses have changed.

For the last month, he's been working for Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon. Neriah, formerly Prime Minister Rabin's adviser on the peace process, is the head of the Histadrut's department of international relations, succeeding Grisha Alroi, whose area of expertise was Germany.

Neriah, a muscular man who chain-smokes as he discusses his new role, feels he is the right man in the right place. His challenge, he says, is to transform the Histadrut into an integral player among the labor movements in the Middle East.

The 45-year-old former intelligence officer wants to use the contacts he formed in the Prime Minister's Office to advance this goal. As Rabin's envoy, Neriah has been countless times to Egypt and Tunisia. He is on excellent terms with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"I hope we will be integrated into the region," he says. "This is our first priority. First, I want to concentrate on the Arab world, then Europe and the Far East. Of course, I don't want to forget the US."

NERIAH HAS used his relationship with Arafat to facilitate the current Histadrut negotiations with the Palestinian Authority on the labor federation's debt to Arab laborers from Gaza. Many laborers had Histadrut dues deducted from their salaries and now the PA wants this money returned.

The two sides are far apart concerning how much money the Histadrut owes. The labor federation estimates the debt at NIS 30 million. The PA wants NIS 700 million. Last month, the Histadrut agreed to hand over to the PA an initial payment of NIS 3 million.

"We don't have the capability to repay what the PA is asking," Neriah says.

Neriah wants the Histadrut to reform its policy toward Palestinian laborers. He acknowledges that for years the labor federation took their money but did little to protect Arab workers from the territories.

So, another subject of negotiations with the PA is to draft what he terms a "social treaty," a plan for protecting the rights of Arab laborers from the PA areas employed in Israel.

The Palestinians are foremost on Neriah's mind. He says he believes warm relations with Arafat and his regime are essential to the success of the peace process. Since his time as Rabin's adviser, he has urged the government not to unnecessarily irritate Arafat or play him off other Arab leaders.

It's a conclusion that Neriah took time to form. Like most of Rabin's advisers, Neriah was not informed of the secret negotiations with the PLO at Oslo, which resulted in Gaza/Jericho First and mutual recognition between Israel and the organization.

But in his first meetings with Arafat, Neriah – a native of Lebanon who arrived here in his late teens and remains fluent in Arabic – realized that Arafat was capable of turning his back on nearly 30 years of terrorism against Israel. Together with Arafat's adviser on the peace process, Ahmed Tibi, Neriah visited the PLO chief in Tunis and Europe, and a friendship was formed.

FOR A while, Rabin used Neriah's warm ties with Arafat to send him messages. But, sources in the Prime Minister's Office say, this aroused the resentment of some of Rabin's chief aides. They felt he was being too soft on Arafat and tried to reduce Neriah's access to the prime minister.

"As an orientalist, he certainly knew his stuff," an aide to the prime minister says. "The problem is he didn't know Israeli politics."

Neriah soon got the message and accepted an offer from Ramon of a senior post at the Histadrut. His old job in the Prime Minister's Office has not been filled.

"If you can't influence from within, then go outside," he says.

Despite his departure, Neriah is still asked by Rabin's director-general Shimon Sheves and bureau chief Eitan Haber to improve Israel's relations with the PLO. He was said to have attempted to undo the damage of Rabin's last meeting with Arafat, during which both men threw barbs and accusations at each other concerning the PLO's performance in containing Hamas terrorism.

Neriah, no longer a government employee, feels comfortable criticizing Rabin's policy toward the PLO. He says the prime minister's constant carping about Arafat harms Israel's relationship with the PA.

Moreover, Rabin's wooing of Jordan – apparently at the PLO's expense – is dangerous, Neriah says. He cites Rabin's pledge to King Hussein to give Jordan priority for control of the Islamic holy places when the future of Jerusalem is discussed in negotiations for a permanent settlement.

"Our future strategy must be a solution of coexistence between us and the Palestinians," he says. "The game of playing Jordan off the PLO is not good for Israel, because they could get together and then we'll be in trouble.

"Jordan is part of the peace efforts," Neriah adds, "but it has nothing to do with the West Bank."

Neriah recalls a recent discussion he had with leading PLO officials. They were furious with Israel's agreement to allow Jordan to export $30 million worth of goods to the territories – without seeking Arafat's approval.

"They told me, 'We'll treat the imports from Jordan the way we treated Israeli produce in the territories during the intifada,' " Neriah says, recalling how Palestinian militants torched stores selling Israeli goods.

NERIAH'S ARGUMENT appears to have been supported by recent developments. Jordan now says it is suspending its exports to the territories pending PLO approval. On Jerusalem, Jordan – which has seen its supporters under threat from Fatah activists – has gone out of its way to stress Palestinian claims to the city.

Arafat, Neriah says, is committed to his accord with Israel, despite the constant criticism in Gaza and abroad.

"They [the critics] asked Arafat why the Israeli army is still in Gush Katif," Neriah recalls. "He said, 'Look at Germany. Fifty years after the war, the Russians are only beginning to leave. Did that prevent Germany from reuniting and becoming a world power?' "

Neriah, however, does not support Arafat's call to begin negotiations on the final status of the territories.

Eventually, he says, the solution with the Palestinians is a withdrawal from Judea, Samaria and Gaza with Israeli access to the Jewish holy sites. Jerusalem, he says, should remain under Israeli sovereignty.

For the Palestinians who demand Jerusalem as well as the right of return, Neriah's solution is inadequate. But Neriah believes they will agree. Many nations have been prepared to undergo hardships and deprivation for freedom, and he hopes the Palestinians will be one of them.

"I prefer to make NIS 100 and be independent, even if this is difficult," Neriah says, "rather than make a lot more and be under somebody else's rule. This is the first time that Palestinians are ruling themselves."

THE PALESTINIANS are only part of Neriah's job. His time is often spent on convincing neighboring Arab nations, particularly Egypt, to accept Histadrut delegations or send Arab unionists to Israel.

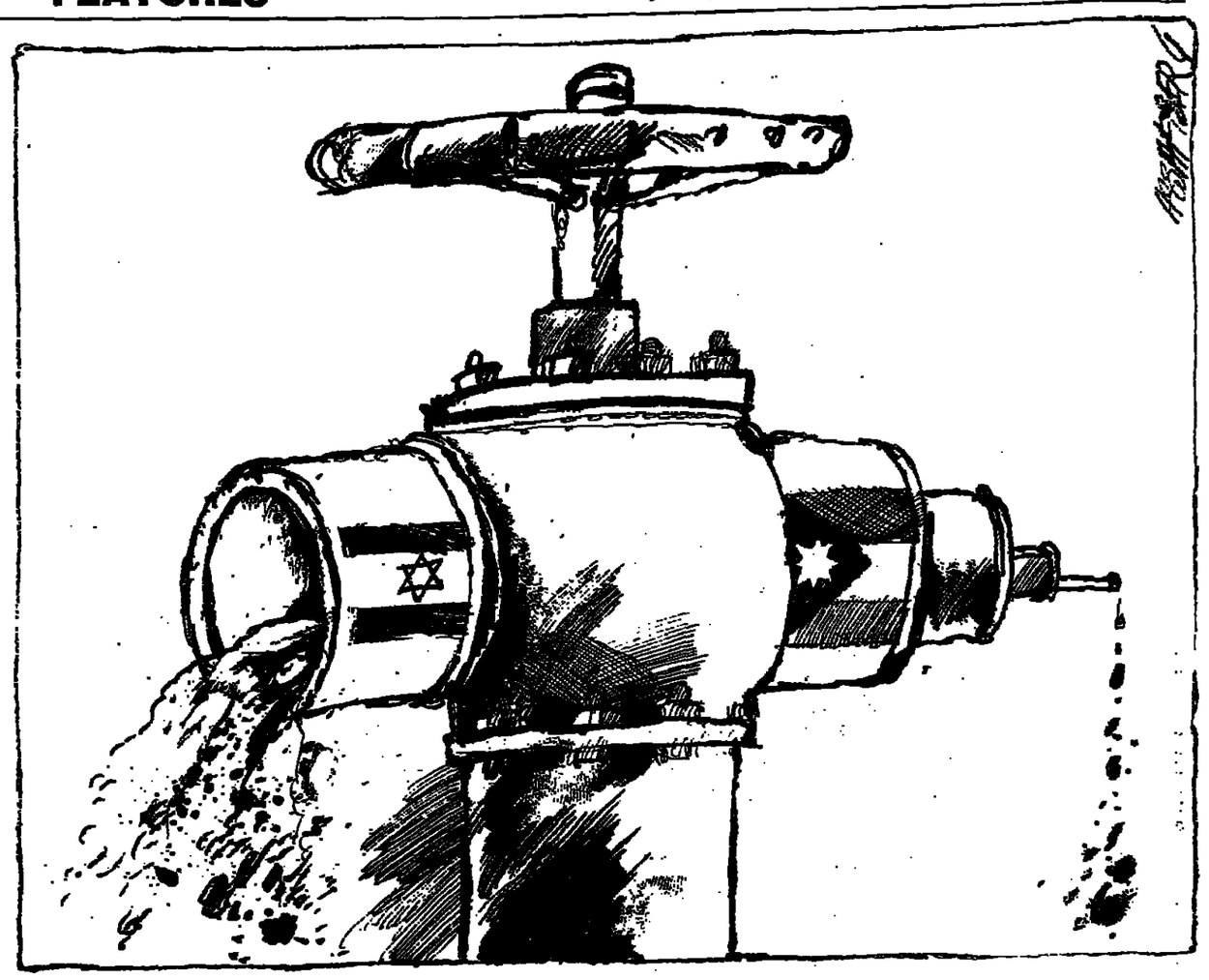
It's a tall order, he says, even in these times. Egypt's trade unions remain solidly against any cooperation with Israel. Some of Jordan's professional associations pledge to have nothing to do with their western neighbor, even if Amman signs a peace treaty with Israel.

Neriah says his method is to stress to his Arab counterparts that by refusing contacts, they will lose out on the benefits of a Middle East peace. "It's an argument that doesn't do badly," he says while acknowledging that he has not seen dramatic changes.

But Arab-Israeli trade cooperation will avoid one subject, Neriah says: democracy. He says he will not follow the model of the AFL-CIO that promotes Western democracy in the Third World.

"I am not a follower of Western democracy and we have to let the regimes operate as they have been doing," he says. "I don't have to educate the workers in Libya to scream democracy, so when they get back from Israel they end up getting killed.

"There's a system that's been built up [in the Arab world]," he adds. "I don't want to change it."



The ice cube on Jordan's team

Munthir Haddadin, the 'bad guy' in Jordan's delegation to the peace talks, knows that handshakes and smiles won't be enough when it comes to the thorny issue of water rights, **Steve Rodan** reports

IF anyone comes close to being a bad guy in the amiable Jordanian delegation to the peace talks, it's Munthir Haddadin.

The 54-year-old engineer is a broad, muscular man with a penchant for wearing short sleeves and safari jackets – in contrast to the regular diplomatic dress of suits and ties or the uniforms of military commanders.

Also, unlike the other members of the Jordanian delegation, Haddadin speaks freely of the hardships of negotiating with Israel. He also complains to reporters about what he calls Israel's habit of falsely announcing Jordan's assent on sensitive issues.

"Whatever you hear from the Israeli side, take it with a grain of salt," Haddadin says.

His tone reflects his role in the Jordanian group. He is the chairman of the water subcommittee, which is dealing with perhaps the toughest aspect of the negotiations: sharing the water resources common to Jordan and Israel.

At the end of the most recent round of talks, held last week, the chief negotiators for Israel and Jordan announced progress in all spheres, including water.

But Haddadin plays this down, saying that while the necessary technical work outlining the water talks is proceeding, there is no progress on resolving the dispute over sharing resources.

Jordan says it wants its "fair share." Currently, it receives less than a third of the 1.5 billion cubic meters that flow through the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers.

Haddadin says Jordanians consume less than half the water used by Israel. Water pumped to Jordanian villages and cities from these sources totals about 40 to 45 cubic meters per capita annually, while 100 cubic meters per capita are pumped to Israeli municipalities.

For Jordanians, that means water rationing. Haddadin says water is pumped to his Amman neighborhood once every three weeks. Every home has tanks to store water and also buys water in case the supply runs short.

Haddadin, whose family is a fixture in the Jordanian political establishment, recalls better days. In 1946, he says, each Transjordanian enjoyed 3,200 cubic meters of water annually. But two years later, the Israeli War of Independence led to the massive Palestinian exodus, mostly to Transjordan.

The hundreds of thousands of refugees created a severe strain on Jordan's water resources. Haddadin says that was aggravated by Israel's increasing diversion of the Jordan River. Today, the annual per capita use for a Jordanian is 180 cubic meters.

Haddadin says it's far below what he calls the minimum per capita of 1,200 cubic meters. He says Jordan has tried to ease its shortage by better distribution and more efficient use of water. These have not sufficed, he says.

He says that even an agreement on water rights and sharing of water resources would not remedy the shortfall; but it would have an immediate impact.

"We would have to develop water resources as well, though this would not add significantly to the water stock," Haddadin says, adding that more efficient use would also not significantly add to the water stock.

For these reasons, Haddadin has rejected the Israeli proposal that they discuss joint projects to expand water resources. Israeli negotiators, led by Prime Minister Rabin's adviser on settlements, Noah Kinarti, have argued that sharing insufficient resources will not resolve the shortage felt by both countries.

Kinarti, who refused to be interviewed for this article, was one of the Israelis who actually measured the flow of the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers to ensure that Israel was getting its fair share of the water.

Israeli officials recall the arguments between them and the Jordanians over how the river flow was to be measured.

The same cat-and-mouse tactics are often played out in the negotiating room, participants say. Israeli delegates propose joint projects. The Jordanians ignore this and instead try to obtain Israeli recognition of their rights to the northern Jordan River, which is within Israeli territory.

So, for example, during a discussion on projects to improve the quality of water from the Jordan River, the Jordanian delegation will raise demands for a percentage of that water.

Some Israeli negotiators are concerned that even the Jordanian claim of sovereignty over 800 dunams (200 acres) of land at Naharayim, a tiny island in the Jordan River, is a pretext to claim water rights in the northern section.

"There is no change in the Jordanian position," Haddadin says. "Before we talk about increasing the water for both sides, we have to agree on allocations to both sides."

Haddadin, however, will not specify Jordan's demands. Israeli negotiators agree that Amman wants to first win Israeli recognition to the northern Jordan River before numbers are raised.

This issue also involves Syria, which over the last few years has taken more and more of the water flowing down the Golan and to the Jordan and Yarmuk.

"The segregated development of water resources does not lead to the optimum results for each," Haddadin says. "Israel has done this with the development of the national water carrier. Syria has done the same, and you cannot blame them. The prevailing climate does not contribute to cooperation."

Haddadin stresses that Israel insisted on bilateral talks on water, while Jordan suggested multilateral negotiations including Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinians.

Israeli officials respond that the multilateral talks are being boycotted by Syria, and that accords must be signed only on a bilateral basis.

In the end, Haddadin acknowledges that Jordan's aim is to end what he describes as years of discrimination against the kingdom concerning water rights.

The US has quietly mediated water disputes, and the never-ratified agreement drafted by Eric Johnston in 1955 remains the benchmark for water sharing.

That agreement, Israeli officials say, grants Jordan 46.7 percent of the allocation from the Jordan River. Israel receives 38.5%; Syria 11.7%; and 3.1% goes to Lebanon.

But Haddadin says that the Johnston agreement is now hardly applicable to the region.

"Our kingdom draws its name from this river, and we have land that is irrigated from the river," he says. "All told, we are due a lot more than what the Johnston plan gave us."

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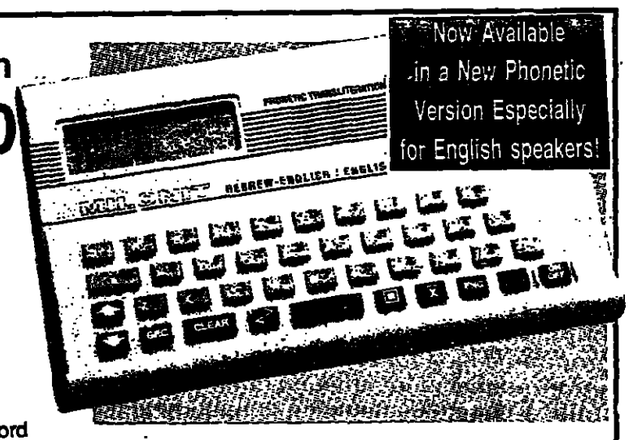
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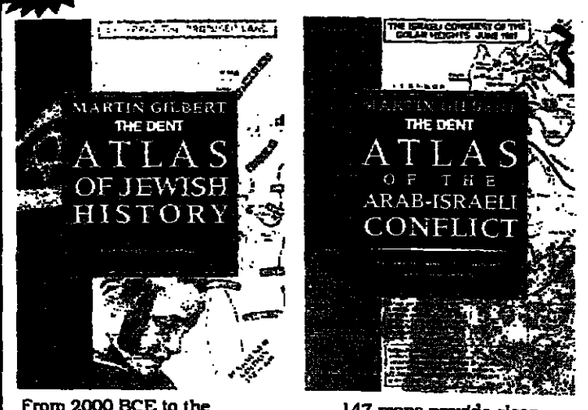
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Labor dons kid gloves to stroke rebels into line

Kahalani and his (occasional) allies manning the Golan barricades worry Rabin and Peres, for the wrong reasons, Sarah Honig writes



The Golan hunger strikers overlooking Gamla can count on Kahalani's support, but the Labor MK's political effectiveness may not be quite as reliable.

ALTHOUGH he predicts that peace with Syria is in the offing, Shimon Peres is not a happy man these days.

The cause of his sour mood became all too evident at the session of the Labor political bureau on Succot Eve, when he fretted aloud that the discord in his party might instill doubts in Damascus about the Israeli government's ability to deliver the Golan.

For once, Peres and Rabin are of one mind. Neither really fears that rebellious MK Avigdor Kahalani and his handful of on-and-off allies will actually team up with the opposition to vote the government down. Rabin and Peres are not facing such resolute, single-minded challengers.

The consensus in most Labor quarters is that a Mapai-type face-saving compromise will eventually be formulated. It is primarily this expectation that is behind the decision not to rile Kahalani, lest he be left with no choice but to burn his Labor bridges.

Kahalani himself advised party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli at a recent tête-à-tête: "Don't yell at me and I won't be forced into extreme reactions."

The Labor leadership indeed curtailed the acrimonious personal onslaughts against Kahalani. The word from Labor even went out to the Meretz zealots to put the lid on anti-Kahalani invective.

So far, it has worked. No one is openly targeting Kahalani, except the anonymous tipsters who tell the press about the bad blood that reportedly exists between Kahalani and Rabin because Rabin, while defense minister in the national unity government, blocked Kahalani's promotion to major-general.

Now, the leakers allege, Kahalani is getting back at Rabin.

Kahalani disdainfully dismisses such talk, but admits to being surprised by the kid-glove treatment accorded him thus far. He had been expecting far worse. After a recent Labor Knesset faction meeting, he expressed astonishment that "Rabin did not open fire on me."

Rabin all but ignores Kahalani, preferring a very hard-sell approach whereby his policy is the one antidote to a terrible war and to the diversion of funds from welfare to defense. The tactic is to whittle down Kahalani's support. And it seems to be working. Most of Kahalani's fair-weather sidekicks ditched him in an unseemly hurry. Some, like MK Eli Goldschmidt, needed only a brief faction session for Rabin to allay their deepest anxieties. Others, like MKs Yoram Lass and Gedalia Gal, said they might go along with Kahalani in submitting a private member's bill demanding special Knesset and referendum majorities for a Golan withdrawal. But they might not vote for their own bill later, if the faction imposes party discipline.

The fact that formally at least such discipline had not yet been declared is all part of the effort not to push Kahalani's back against the wall. But given Rabin's and Peres's unambiguous pronouncements, that discipline is as good as imposed. Thus far no one, except diehards Kahalani and MK Emanuel Zissman, dares oppose it. Yet a Labor deputy minister describes Rabin and Peres as "anything but confident. They are very nervous tightrope walkers. Their most careful plans can be upset by one imprudent dove who can send the lone hawks flying against the party's course."

Nevertheless, a cursory examination of Kahalani's and Zissman's pasts does not bolster the odds of their going against the party line. Only six months ago they succumbed to pressure and in effect foiled a Golan bill similar to their present one which was submitted by MKs Uzi Landau (Likud) and Yitzhak Levy (NRP).

Zissman once threatened to vote against the government and bring it down over the continued terrorism from the Palestinian autonomous area. A short, personal pep talk by Rabin calmed him. Kahalani in 1989 declared himself a Land-of-Israel loyalist and negotiated with Moshe Arens about joining the Likud. But an offer to head the Histadrut's Amal educational network made a Laborite of him.

Nonetheless it's hard to ignore the personal stakes in the Golan campaign for Kahalani. His face peers at passersby from giant billboards everywhere, as it did during the last municipal elections when Kahalani headed the Labor ticket in Tel Aviv. Only the message is different now: "The Golan – till here and no more!"

The deputy minister – who likes Kahalani – says: "This is an awfully tall tree from which to come down unhurt. Kahalani is basically naive. He thinks he took a leaf out of Haim Ramon's Histadrut book and that he can pull the party in his ideological direction. But Ramon is an astute player with powerful allies and a formidable political infrastructure. Kahalani is a babe in the woods, and it's dangerous out there."

Kahalani doesn't reject the Ramon analogy. "But the irony is," he chuckles bitterly, "that the party is crawling on its belly to Ramon who defeated it in the Histadrut. I am about to be kicked hard for defending the Labor platform and centrist, mainstream orientation. The party is lurching suicidally leftward and I am only trying to save it.

"The nation won't forgive Labor if it hands the Golan to enemies whose goal remains to weaken us sufficiently for the slaughter."

Kahalani portrays himself as one who is putting his political life on the line for his country. He is palpably pained and no more eager for the showdown than are the unhappy Rabin and Peres, who fear a PR fallout from the Kahalani episode at home and across the northern border.

The only smiles to be seen in the coalition's vicinity are on the faces of Shas MKs watching gleefully from the sidelines. On the sly, Labor is making overtures again in case the need to defeat Kahalani's motion does arise. Rabin is reportedly about to make another bid to entice Shas into his coalition. It appears that Shas has already noted the hawkish nature of its electorate as a means of hiking its asking price.

Study about US force on Golan raises questions and eyebrows

Opponents of withdrawal from the heights want a secret report by the Rand Corporation to be opened to discussion before the debate over peace with Syria is closed, Hillel Kuttler reports

THE Rand Corporation produces, according to its own estimate, "several hundred" reports annually for the federal government on defense and strategic issues.

But in Middle East circles in Washington, perhaps none of the Southern California-based think tank's reports is as eagerly awaited as its analysis of what a US presence on the Golan Heights would look like should Israel and Syria strike a peace deal entailing Israeli withdrawal from the plateau.

The curious are seeking in the report hints of US intentions for a presence on the Golan. Will it be a large armed force? A Sinai-like monitoring presence? Token observers?

The classified report, completed for the Pentagon last winter, has only in the past month been shared with members of Congress, and only then after a good deal of arm-twisting, Capitol Hill sources say.

A declassified version is still a month away, the sources add.

Until now, the State Department, the Israel Embassy and centrist Jewish organizations have maintained that a public discussion of the US troop issue would be counterproductive. To do so, they hold, is to endanger sensitive Israeli-Syrian talks.

But those groups opposed to a Golan withdrawal contend that a US security presence of any kind will inevitably compromise Washington's close relationship with Jerusalem because of potential American casualties. They prefer, therefore, that the issue be aired now, and not when an Israeli-Syrian treaty is a done deal.

So with the mere phrase "US troops on the Golan" liable to sound alarm bells in Washington, the report is generating interest despite the fact that many experts don't even know its precise contents.

"The importance of the Rand study was that it exploded the argument that discussion of American troop deployments on the Golan Heights was premature," said private consultant Rand Fishbein, a former defense aide to Senator Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii).

"The groups that express concern that the use of American troops would adversely affect US and Israeli security [have] legitimate [reasons for] raising these concerns since, presumably, they were concerns also considered by the analysts who constructed the study.

"Any thoughtful evaluation of the pros and cons of this issue had to have included the kinds of questions that members of Congress were asking be looked into – questions of cost, of duration, of mission, of day-to-day operations, and a whole range of political questions involving how the US was going to maintain its historical commitment to Israel's security, while also being pledged as an equal partner [in the peace talks] with Syria."

Clearly, the issue of conducting a study on the feasibility of a US troop presence on the Golan is a political hot potato.

In June, Sen. Thad Cochran (R-Mississippi), under pressure from the embassy and the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), withdrew his sponsorship of an amendment calling for a Senate debate on the matter.

A week later, Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyoming) picked up the ball, only to have his own amendment shot down by a 67-3 vote.

And in August, Sen. Don Nickles (R-Oklahoma) introduced an amendment to the defense appropriations bill compelling the administration to release the study to Congress no later than October.

Republican staffers on Capitol Hill now say they are furious that the administration had already received the Rand study, but never thought to inform Congress of that fact.

In their view, the White House is not abiding by President Clinton's pledge in Presidential Policy Directive No. 25, issued early last year, to inform Congress of potential US troop participation in UN-like peacekeeping operations.

The directive emanated from the worsening situations in Somalia and Bosnia, when the Bush and later the Clinton administration began considering participating in international peacekeeping forces.

Some see the delays in supplying Congress with the Golan study as typical of an administration that this week dispatched invading troops to Haiti just before a divided Congress could weigh in on that debate.

Only since late August have senior Pentagon officials – including Molly Williamson, the deputy assistant secretary for Middle East affairs, and Fred Smith, the DAS for international security affairs – briefed the Senate armed services committee and individual Senate offices on the Rand report.

According to those who have seen the report at the briefings – participants were not allowed to remove it from the room – the 30- to 40-page document is disappointing for it does not say what the US should ultimately do.

Rand presented a bevy of options for a potential US presence: from a scenario of several soldiers, to high-tech monitoring of Syrian compliance, to brigades of US forces, including tanks and commanders.

In short, staffers say, the hullabaloo over the Rand study is much ado about nothing because it drew no conclusions.

"The Rand analysts made a number of assumptions, and I think they were operating in a policy vacuum," said a foreign policy adviser to a Democratic member of the armed services committee, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Williamson conceded to the group, he said, that " 'this was not up to Rand's academic standards.' She left me with the distinct impression that the policymakers in the Pentagon sent out Rand to do the study without the necessary policy parameters."

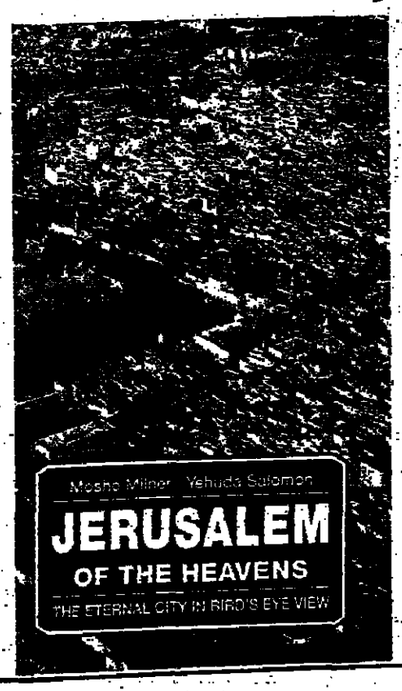
Indeed, he added, "those who say [the study] says we should send up a brigade of soldiers – that's not correct."

This week, Williamson was scheduled to brief staffers on the foreign affairs committees.

At least until Israel and Syria hatch a deal and the matter of a potential US military presence comes to the fore publicly, Congress is left to softer protestations. New Jersey Representative Mike Andrews, a Democrat, is circulating a letter among his colleagues calling on Clinton not to allow Jerusalem and Damascus to condition a deal on American military involvement.

As of this week, only nine members had signed it.

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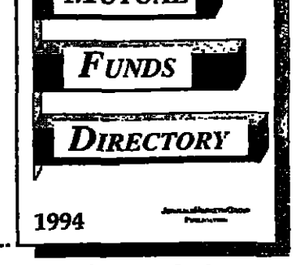
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A Hindu boy carries an offering: sounding surprisingly like the voice of the 'proud Jew,' the voice of the 'proud Hindu' in India emphasizes the religion's essential monotheism and deep tolerance. (Hannah Satz)

This passage to India reveals heaven on earth

TRAVEL

TIRZAH AGASSI

EXPECT the unexpected if you're traveling to India.

I had planned an enlightening glance at Tibetan Buddhism in the Himalayas when I accepted an invitation from the Government of India Tourist Office to spend 10 days as their guest. But there was no room on the plane from Delhi to Ladakh, and instead I wound up in central India at the erotic Hindu temples of Khajuraho.

Once I stopped fretting about the country's overextended internal flight system, I simply accepted that the vast subcontinent had its own plans for me.

Like most people, I'd read about the poverty, the exploding population of 900 million, and the cows that wander through busy city streets. And still I was not quite prepared for the waves of humanity pouring through the older parts of Delhi: people on foot, people on bicycles, people in pedicabs, people in cars, wave upon wave of people.

I was even less prepared for the wide boulevards of Delhi's better neighborhoods, home to a burgeoning middle class, an estimated 200 to 300 million potential consumers exerting a magnetic attraction on multinationals like Coca-Cola.

Equally unexpected was the magnificence of India's past as epitomized by the Mogul architecture of the Red Fort. The fort, a sandstone walled city built by Shah Jahan in the 1650s, was the seventh "incarnation" of Delhi. Its scale, looming presence and mammoth gracefulness celebrate the glory and bold spirit of its emperor.

Over an arch of the pavilion where Shah Jahan once sat on his solid-gold Peacock Throne, a Persian couplet declares: "If there be a paradise on earth/ It is this! It is this! It is this!"

Though one might wonder about the labor conditions of those who toiled to build it, or the sentiments of the populace whose taxes paid for it, one can't help being impressed by the architecture, the grand embodiment of an individual will.

THE THEME of idea in action came across again during a visit, on my second day, to Dr. Ramesh Paramahamsa, director of the Indian Institute of Tantric Studies. Paramahamsa is a "hot" guru these days. He reminded me of the kind of rabbi whose wisdom is extolled by fast-lane journalists.

A tall, middle-aged man in comfortable white cotton, he has light in his eyes and a beaming, cheerful demeanor. Yet he can suddenly bark out Hindi orders in a voice straight from the solar plexus. A whiz at astro-palmistry, he knocked me sideways with a true insight gleaned from a quick perusal of my palm.

The guest of honor at Paramahamsa's meditation session that day was the chief lama from Delhi's Tibetan Buddhist Center, a sweet, owl-faced man in dark red robes, with puffy bags under his eyes. The life of a saintly refugee cannot be easy.

The lama gave a brief talk to the Indian audience about the two aspects of effective meditation: concentration and insight. He used the image of "a bird that needs *two* wings to fly."

Suddenly Paramahamsa was up on the podium hijacking the image. "Yes, a bird needs *two* wings to fly: knowledge and *action!*"

As I exchanged a glance with the spiritual but somewhat worn-looking Tibetan, I reflected on how ineffective meditation had proven thus far in getting the Chinese invaders out of his homeland. Paramahamsa's call to *action!* sounded almost Israeli.

Many Indians I met were eager to discuss the relationship between philosophy and national survival. But instead of sounding threatened by China, they focused on the need to avoid traditional Hindu passivity in the face of Moslem extremism. Such thoughts were generally expressed along with admiration for Israel.

Though – expect the unexpected – the biggest fans of Israel I met turned out to be young Moslems.

THE INCONGRUOUS image of tiny Israel and huge India as two sides of a "sandwich" around the Moslem bloc came up that evening when I had dinner with Konti Poddar, managing director of Orient Express Travel Service, and his daughter Ritika. Poddar's wife, Pramila, was, at that moment, in Israel lecturing on Khajuraho, site of the sensuous 10th-century temples built, some say, expressly to sway the population back from ascetic Buddhism. To their credit or not, 83.3 percent of modern India's population is Hindu, as opposed to only 0.9 percent Buddhists.

Over dinner we spoke of the tension between the ideal of religious pluralism and danger from aggressive Islam. On the way home, 23-year-old Ritika Poddar came up with an opinion that crystallized my unexpected respect for India's culture.

"I don't think the world gives sufficient credit to the Hindu religion for the depth of its tolerance," she stated firmly. Hers was the voice of a "proud Hindu." It sounded much like the voice of a proud Jew.

I'd never been drawn to Hinduism, associating it with the cop-out mentality of Western dilettantes who tend to dismiss social inequities as "bad karma." But Ritika Poddar, in her modest yet appealing *salwah kameesh* (pants and tunic set), is a very serious young woman who holds a responsible job promoting Indian business and manufacturing opportunities. Flaky she was not.

I murmured something about "pagan Hindus" having been given a bad rap by Christians (meaning the British colonialists). But she quickly shot back the impression that all that was just nominal Christian misunderstanding of the true profundity of their own religion. Here was that universalist tolerance she was talking about in action.

RITIKA PODDAR, who sees Hinduism as an essentially monotheistic religion, was far from the only Indian to impress me with such openness to "the other." For all the headlines about religious tension, I also met this same generosity of spirit among Moslems. It impressed me as much as did that unspeakably beautiful monument to love: the Taj Mahal.

The Taj, which is in Agra, a brief plane ride from Delhi, was built by the same Mogul Shah Jahan who commissioned the Red Fort, in memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz. Forget its clichéd postcard familiarity. Up close it really is "a symphony in white marble" and should *not* be missed. For anyone who believes in the possibility of enduring love between a man and a woman, a pilgrimage to the Taj Mahal is the equivalent of a Moslem's haj to Mecca.

Make this haj soon; environmentalists warn that the effects of industrial pollution could eventually turn the Taj yellow.

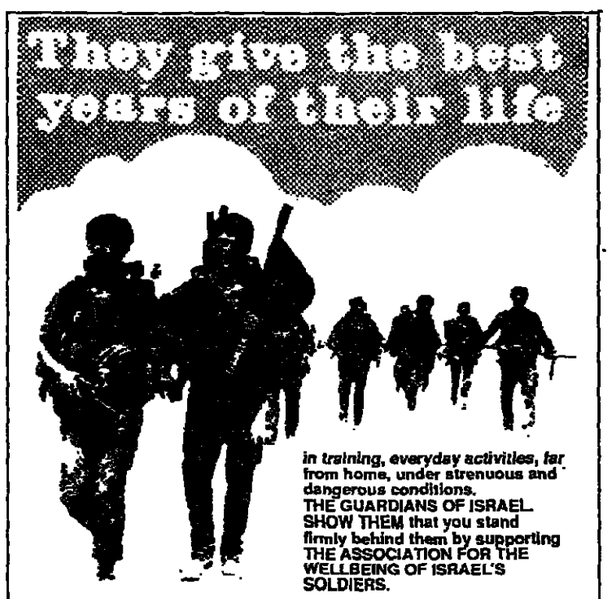
Shah Jahan's Moguls were Moslems who swept into Hindustan from Central Asian Uzbekistan. Their early rulers are still revered in India for the speed with which they adopted the traditional tolerance of their new home. They intermarried with Hindus and incorporated the sensuous local style into their architecture.

When Mumtaz died giving birth to her 14th child, her husband's hair turned gray in a matter of months. My erudite Tourist Office guide, O.P. Saxena, told me that, according to Moslem lore, heaven becomes accessible to the dead only after the Day of Judgment. Shah Jahan had no doubt that his Mumtaz was destined for heaven. But he didn't want her to have to wait. So he built the Taj to create "heaven on earth" for her.

I don't know that I'll ever understand how the Hindus' belief in reincarnation – let alone the caste system – relates to their embrace of the here and now. But that remarkable action of bringing a Moslem vision of heaven down to earth for the sake of love seems to reflect the worship of life that struck me so strongly in India. No wonder the Taj Mahal has become a symbol of the country.

Expect the unexpected: perfection juxtaposed against the smell of poverty one can't even begin to comprehend; advertisements for astro-palmists in every hotel room; the sudden realization that a man on the street, standing a meter away from you, has a *huge* snake wrapped around his neck. If you meet India halfway, its vibrance and sheer "*differentness*" will wake you up to endless possibilities.

This is the first of two articles on India. The second article is to appear next Friday.



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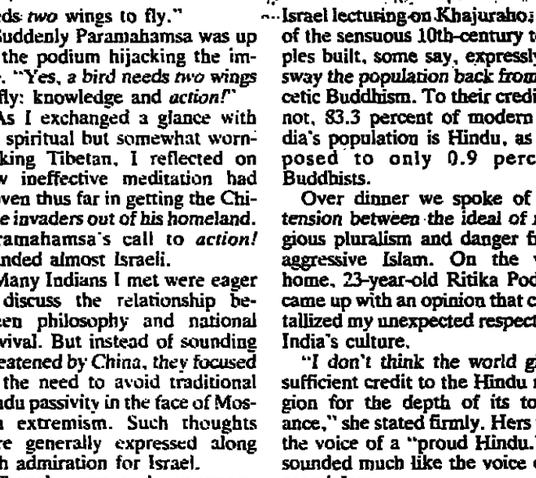
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Israeli government, press are Assad's PR team

COMMENT

YIGAL CARMON

ABOUT a month ago, a Dr. Ben-Avraham of the Emek Hospital in Afula, where he was treating a Syrian relative of President Hafez Assad, was interviewed on Israel Radio.

He spoke at length about Syria's readiness for peace. Of course, this was conditional on Israel withdrawing from the Golan, he said.

The next day, a correction was broadcast: The Emek Hospital had no Syrian patient, nor did it employ a Dr. Ben-Avraham.

When one hears Prime Minister Rabin talking about Assad, it's hard not to recall that phony interview. One day, Rabin tells us that Syrian TV – the regime's mouthpiece – broadcast the peace ceremonies with Jordan, and that this showed Damascus's readiness for peace. The next day, it transpires that the broadcast actually contained a sharp attack on the event.

But Rabin's word is his word: He will continue to cite that broadcast as proof of Assad's peaceful intentions.

The Syrian foreign minister was asked if Syria would agree to "a warm peace," but rejected the notion with a pretext, saying, "It's not up to governments to decide this, but the peoples."

But the Israeli media reported just the opposite: The minister was quoted as having declared Syria ready for a warm peace and diplomatic relations too.

No international news agency transmitted this quote, except for Israeli correspondents – in the spirit of the interview from Afula.

Assad announced to the new Syrian National Assembly that he would not grant Israel any components of peace not demanded by "objective requirements," nor any aspect of peace meant to serve Israel's interests. He even departed from his prepared text to expand on this theme.

However, our media revised his words: "Assad agrees to the requirements of peace" – with no restriction, no qualification.

The government knows, but does not tell the public, that even in return for full withdrawal, Assad will not agree to normalization of relations with Israel. The "full peace" he speaks of does not include open borders, trade and tourism. Only "routine relations," as he told President Clinton.

WHAT DOES this mean?

Well, as Syria's chief negotiating delegate used to say to us: "We have peace with dozens of countries in the world without having diplomatic relations with them. Your demands for normalization are an attempt to impose conditions on us. But it won't work with Syria, nor with Assad."

But here, they interpret Assad's "routine relations" (an undefined and nonbinding phrase) as "normal relations," so they will at least sound like normalization. However, ultimately, make-believe cannot determine reality, real problems cannot be solved by whimsical chatter.

How can Rabin assert, on one hand, that the world has changed in a way that coerces everyone into making peace, yet claim that "the window of opportunity" is open to us only momentarily and if we do not accept Syria's terms, we will be at war?

How can we reconcile the thesis that Assad has already adopted a historic, strategic decision to go for peace, with the fact that he is pushing his armed forces toward unprecedented rearmament, especially in offensive capability?

The IDF Intelligence Branch chief explains this: From Syria's point of view, the rearmament is meant to attain strategic parity in the face of the Israeli threat.

It is as if Syria must defend itself against the Rabin-Meretz government or a Likud administration which a few years ago began the peace process at Madrid, and must do this with ground-to-ground missiles and chemical weapons....

How do Rabin and Saguy, the intelligence chief, explain Assad's refusal to take any step which could advance the political process in stages – not an interim accommodation, nor confidence-building measures, nor even a leaders' summit meeting which the Syrian foreign minister deems a "silly idea."

Nor has Assad agreed to attend multilateral talks, or, for months on end now, the bilateral talks.

Most seriously, he has systematically frustrated any prospect of initiating a security arrangement in Lebanon, that being the constructive alternative to the present policy and the real test of Assad's intentions.

How do Rabin and Saguy explain the fact that Assad is not buying Israel's formula leading to full withdrawal, namely "the extent of the withdrawal will match the degree of peace"? And how do they explain the fact that he rejects the Egyptian model, which includes normalization? Yet Rabin and Saguy do not give up that easily; they continue to be PR men for Assad, that "credible leader."

Can they really be referring to the man who tried to have an El Al civilian airliner shot down with 400 passengers? Or the man who prevented the Lebanese national army from controlling Hizbullah? Or the man supporting the war against us in Lebanon, which he occupied and refuses to relinquish despite the Taif Agreement?

"On the Golan front," Rabin praises Assad, "not a single shot has been fired." As though Assad could afford a war of attrition so close to his capital. But in Lebanon? Well, Rabin forgets that.

Bless George Bush. He established at Madrid that the US supports a territorial compromise and full normalization. Because if our destiny depended only on the government of Israel, we'd find ourselves already on the way to full withdrawal without real peace.

The writer is a former senior member of Israel's negotiating team with Syria.

Of language and content in nation's Kulturkampf

Where there is no vision, a nation disintegrates, but fortunate are those who abide by a law and direction [Torah].

Proverbs 29:18

VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

UNTIL MY generation (b. 1923), certainly until my parents' generation, the Jewish life of most individual Jews and of the Jewish people as a whole was held together by the Siddur (the Jewish prayer book).

I refer to two main elements of the Siddur. One is its language and imagery, so much of which were an integral part of the daily language of the masses, even those who didn't really understand Hebrew.

The other is the Siddur's central vision: the Redemption of the world, a central part of which is the Return to Zion idea.

Most Jews were still moved by that Prophetic vision. An integral part of their lives was the yearning for the materialization of that vision. And they expressed or fed this yearning in various ways.

For many, both the source and expression was the study of Torah. I use this word not in its narrow sense, comprising only the Pentateuch, and certainly not in the sense of "the Law," as traditionally rendered by Christians.

I mean it in its broadest sense, embracing all of traditional Jewish learning and living. So much of Torah deals with our early trek to Eretz Yisrael and the principles by which we are to conduct our private and national daily lives here.

Parents and teachers sought to stimulate children's minds with tales of the physical and spiritual feats of biblical and later heroes of Eretz Yisrael, not to put them to sleep with the pointless antics of TV and video characters.

Most Jews prayed for the Return three times daily; at least on Shabbat and the other holy days.

Few homes did not have several *pushkes* (charity boxes). These were likely to be mainly from for institutions in Eretz Yisrael and, since early in the century, often included the blue/white Jewish National Fund box.

The *pushkes* were gradually filled with coins, often a penny at a time, usually under the supervision of the mother before she lit the Shabbat and festival candles.

Several times a year the Eretz Yisrael *meshullahim* (emissaries) came around to empty the boxes and give receipts. They were usually invited for at least a cup of coffee and a pastry, and between bites and sips they regaled their hosts with reports from "home," Eretz Yisrael.

This perhaps idyllic description characterized Jewish life of that time, not only where Jews presumably languished in ghettos and lived in constant fear of pogroms, which, indeed, often came. It was true also of communities in the relatively free countries of Europe; true even in North America, and not only in the major communities, but also in small-town *America and provincial Canada.*

ALL THAT was not, of course, an infallible immunization against the influences of an increasingly open society and mass culture.

There was noticeable assimilation since the 19th century, when Jews were severely discriminated against by the law and even by the educated, more cosmopolitan sectors of society. They frequently suffered physical violence at the hands of antisemitic neighbors and security forces.

But I doubt that in those times and circles there was as much self-conscious thought or talk of "Jewish survival" in the sense in which it has been discussed in recent years. Or rather, of "continuity," the newer Jewish buzzword.

Today, the concerns of Jewish Survivalists/Continuists are the ignorance and indifference of the great mass of Jews to the Jewish spiritual/cultural heritage and the commitment of so many Jews to the Minus-Zero Population *Growth idea.*

But many Jews who are having three or more children are willing to leave it to chance that their children and grandchildren will be Jewish in more than just the halachic sense of happening to have been born to Jewish mothers; that their children will be Jewish, that is, by virtue of knowledge and understanding of, and commitment to transmitting, our heritage.

In the US, for example, "For *increasing numbers of ... Jews* the primary value of Jewish life is that it provides a convenient handle for entering into and engaging the general political debates that agitate society at large," Phil Baum, acting executive director of the American Jewish Congress, has written. "It remains to be seen, however, whether good citizenship, decorated with Jewish nomenclature, is sufficiently invigorating to promote Jewish continuity" (*Congress Monthly*, April/May 1991).

In Israel, many Jews think that the very fact that they live here, speak Hebrew and raise their children in Hebrew is a guarantee of their Jewish continuity. They ignore the obvious fact that hundreds of thousands of Moslems, Christians and other non-Jews also live here, speak Hebrew and raise their children in Hebrew.

One American sage, Alan Mintz, professor of Hebrew literature at Brandeis University, has offered tacit support for this view.

In the July 1993 *Commentary*, Mintz wrote of the "crucial" role of Hebrew "in preventing secular Israeli culture from losing touch with Jewish history and religion."

He said: "The fact that there is no Saturday in Israel but only Shabbat [is a] trite but powerful [example] of how the use of Hebrew makes a certain intimacy with Jewishness inescapable. You can reject the claims of Jewishness, but although many writers have tried, you cannot invent a Hebrew that is free of its association."

Dr. Aaron Lerner of Ra'anana commented that the country club he belongs to holds "Friday Night Parties," the designation "Friday night" having replaced the traditional "*Layl Shabbat*," Sabbath Eve, even in the discourse of some with a religious upbringing. Shabbat is now called "weekend" (*The Jerusalem Post*, June 26).

Which is not to mention all the social, moral and spiritual trash written and spoken in Hebrew today in novels, plays, magazines, journals, newspapers and films, and broadcast on the radio and television.

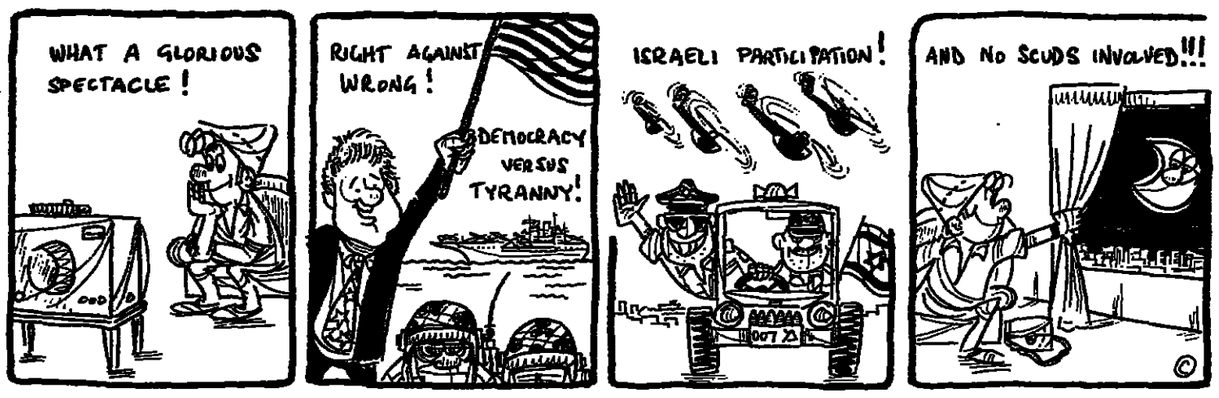
This is not a matter of a culture war between secularists and religionists.

"The real Kulturkampf isn't between the secular and the religious, but in the secularist camp itself, where the secularists are harming themselves most of all," writes publicist Gideon Samet, an inveterate secularist (*Ha'aretz*, August 5).

Samet goes on to speak of the "growing shallowness in the secularist camp," adding: "It's hard to speak of a secularist community that is defending its cultural values against someone or something because there are fewer and fewer such values that the secularists are prepared to point to."

As Commonwealth Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks says: "Jewish life has a 'content,' and not everything done by Jews is equally Jewish" (*Le'ela No. 38*).

SRULIK by DOSH



The Torah: never changing, always new

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

THE biblical festivals of Pessah and Succot are celebrated in an usual manner: They each have a complete festival day at their beginning and conclusion, as well as intermediate days (*Hol Hamoed*).

The latter combine the festive aspects of each holiday (usually the unique practices, such as eating *hametz*) with the routine of an ordinary weekday (permitting most forms of physical activity).

In the synagogue each *Hol Hamoed* morning, four people are called to the Torah for the biblical reading – one less than the five called up during the main festival days, and one more than the three called on a regular Monday or Thursday during the year.

But from this point on, the readings of Succot are radically different from those of Pessah, allowing us to penetrate deeper into the message of Judaism in general and Succot in particular.

During Pessah's *Hol Hamoed*, each day's reading – excerpts from Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers – is different, so that each person honored by being called up to the Torah hears a section unique to him.

But although there are enough Succot-related passages in the Torah to accompany all of Succot's intermediate days, the verses used are virtually the same every day – the sole difference being the fluctuating number of young bulls that were sacrificed on that specific day (one less for each passing day).

The number of verses dealing with each day's sacrifices – a grand total of three – are too few to be divided, since three is the minimum number that must be read for any single *aliya*.

Hence, the four people who ascend to the Torah on *Hol Hamoed* Succot each hear the exact same verses!

Isn't it strange, even a bit absurd, to hear the Torah reader sounding like a broken record?

(This repetition, by the way, does not take place in the Diaspora, since the extra day celebrated there requires a different combination of verses, so of the four people called up, only two hear the same portions.)

I'D LIKE to suggest two possible reasons for the repetitious reading here.

First, the custom may be intended to educate us to be sensitive to the cardinal importance of *kavana* (inner emotion and intent) in all our religious activities.

Four people may hear the very same words, but since each brings his own hopes, disappointments, commitments and passions, each hears something different.

It is the primary importance of inner intent that enables us to repeat virtually the same words of the *Amida* prayer three times each day. As our emotions are constantly changing, so the prayer becomes different each time.

It is especially important to emphasize *kavana* in the area of sacrifice – the biblical forerunner of our present-day *tzedaka*, or charity.

After all, a gift to the synagogue for its upkeep or to help pay the salaries of its officiants is not very different from a gift to the holy Temple or a gift of food for the priests who ministered in the Temple and taught Torah to the people.

We all know that two individuals can give the very same amount, the one because he truly wishes to and the other only because he wants to make an impression on the congregants. For one, the donation is a sacrifice; for the other, the loss will hardly make a dent in his pocketbook.

When four different people are called up for identical Torah readings, we are being taught that in the final analysis, the Merciful One desires our hearts first.

In the matter of donations, the most important aspect is not the amount but the intent; not the public gift, but the internal commitment.

A second reason, however, may be even more revealing. Judaism makes intellectual demands. Jews are profoundly committed to study, and especially to the study of the Torah, the source of our ethical and spiritual conduct.

Hence, in addition to the commandment placed on every Jew to study Torah each day and night – "This book of the Torah shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night" (Joshua 1:8) – public Torah reading is part and parcel of almost every statutory prayer service.

When we look at the structure of public prayer, we find that readings from the Torah are a central part of the service: chanting special prayers as we ceremoniously remove the scroll from the ark, honoring people with *aliyot* and blessings before and after reading portions of the Torah (we conclude the Pentateuch once each year); and weekly selections from the Prophets (Nevi'im) as well as occasional selections from the Writings (Ktuvim) – in addition to the Torah reading each Sabbath – creates a weekly cycle rich in intellectual and emotional depth.

Mondays, Thursdays, new moons, fast days, festivals, Sabbaths: the degree of each day's sanctity determines how many people will be honored by being called up to the Torah.

On Shabbat, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, seven people are called up. Yom Kippur has only slightly less sanctity, with six portions read: The festivals follow with five portions; four are called up on the intermediate days of Pessah and Succot. On an ordinary Monday or Thursday, only three portions are read.

IN EFFECT, *kedushat hayom* – the sanctity of the day – is measured by the number of Torah portions we read.

So, even though the reading for *Hol Hamoed* Succot is technically only enough for one person, the four repetitions emphasize that sanctity and study are inextricably bound together.

Each time we go over a passage we arrive at a deeper insight, a deeper truth. Our sages teach that a person who studies a passage 100 times is not the same as one who studied it 101 times.

The repetitions of *Hol Hamoed* Succot only anticipate the repetition of the entire Torah, which will begin again on Simhat Torah, in effect the conclusion of Succot.

Is not our possession of Torah the secret of Jewish survival? The nation has gone over it about 3,800 times by now. No matter how many times we repeat the process, there is always something new in it.

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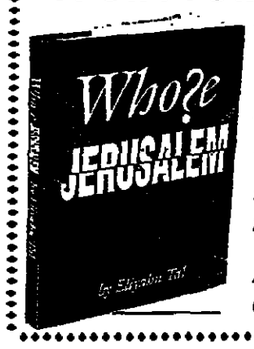
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Good business: Give passengers what they want

British Airways, sensing the end of the European recession, has upgraded its business class to capture the expected rise in executive travel, Haim Shapiro reports



Long-haul business-class passengers on British Airways asked for, and are getting, showers at Heathrow and a preflight supper so they can sleep on board.

IF you are wondering what the passengers on British Airways Club Europe are having for tea these days, it's not scones and clotted cream or even cucumber sandwiches, but rather a bagel with cream cheese and smoked salmon.

Club Europe, British Airways' business class, recently announced its relaunching at a press conference in London attended by hundreds of invited aviation correspondents from across Europe, including Israel – the airline's most far-flung "European" destination.

"It's very New York, isn't it?" said Kurt Hafner, head of the airline's catering standards and development department, when asked about the bagel tea.

The revamping was undertaken in the belief that the European recession is over and businessmen will once more choose comfort over economy, according to British Airways managing director Robert Ayling.

He said studies have shown that many businesses are now convinced it is worth the price differential to get their executives to meetings rested and relaxed, so they can work more effectively.

Another consideration for the airline was the upcoming opening of the Channel Tunnel, offering Eurostar rail service from central London to central Paris and Brussels, two of British Airways' most profitable destinations.

The train brings passengers to the European capitals in almost as little time as it now takes by plane, and it could be more comfortable.

To counter this, the airline is offering its business-class passengers more comfort, with redesigned furnishings and wider seats. The divider between business class and economy class is to be firmer.

Where there were six seats abreast, there are now five. On the Boeing 767, used on the Tel Aviv run, there are six seats abreast in a two-two-two configuration, with a space for more elbow room between the two center seats.

Foot rests are available, and each seat has an adjustable back support bar and headrest.

Food service is said to be more personal, with a choice between a snack and a full meal. A brief view of planned dishes seemed to indicate a tendency toward lighter meals.

Fish, a commodity which was once considered unsuitable for airline meals, is prominently featured.

According to the airline's promotional literature, the champagne for Club Europe was specially blended in flight, at 35,000 feet, on the theory that the bubbly doesn't taste the same in the air as it does on the ground.

For passengers on the airline's daily London to Tel Aviv night flight, which leaves at 10:40, there is the option of a buffet supper and even a shower in the Heathrow Club Europe Lounge, a 400-seat facility.

The preflight supper is available for all British Airways long-haul passengers leaving in the evening.

These features are the result of a survey which the airline's Israel office took of its business-class passengers.

It found that those flying at night wanted a shower after a day of working, and they would rather eat on the ground and sleep during the flight.

As a result of this survey, the airline introduced these features at Heathrow, to the delight of its long-haul clients.

In many European destinations, British Airways has, or is opening, its own business class lounge. The airline had asked to open a similar lounge in Ben-Gurion Airport, but was turned down by the Airports Authority due to lack of space. So the airline is forced to share the crowded facilities of the VIP lounge used by all airlines other than El Al.

On the Tel Aviv run, the two-hour advance check-in is still necessary, but business passengers to and from other destinations with only hand luggage have the option of a telephone or gate check-in as little at 20 minutes before flight time.

Special channels offer these passengers faster passage through security and passport control.

The press-conference presentation spoke of faster and less intrusive security procedures for business passengers, but Ayling said this did not mean the airline was relaxing its security watch, or that it believed the threat of airline terrorism had passed.

"None of our security standards have declined," Ayling said. "We believe the airline companies must remain on guard."

According to company chairman Sir Colin Marshall, the changes will be good news for the business travelers of Europe, but bad news for the airline's competitors.

The Association of European Airlines predicts that the 1993 financial year's figures will show a total operating loss of £2.2 billion, making it the worst year ever after three successive years of heavy financial losses for the European scheduled airline industry.

In this atmosphere, British Airways is fighting to maintain its profitability – it posted a pretax profit of £301 million in the last fiscal year.

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Firms seek better ways to assess workers

Many US companies have found traditional rating systems for their employees to be seriously deficient, Sherwood Ross reports

EMPLOYEES in the United States whose performance has been evaluated by their supervisors alone now may find themselves subject to multiple scrutiny – by their peers, subordinates and even customers.

US companies are opting for multiple evaluations, sometimes called 360 feedback, since most traditional rating systems "are seriously deficient," says management consultant Craig Schneier of Pennington, New Jersey.

Under the traditional method, managers often disliked giving employees poor marks. Employees would get a positive rating whether they earned it or not.

Many managers claim they hire only top people and are unable to admit they've brought in a poor performer, Schneier says.

"Who wants to give a negative performance, especially when you're not going to get rid of them?" he says.

Besides, he points out: "There's so little difference in pay between average and outstanding employees – it might be 3 percent – why go through all this trouble to differentiate on performance?"

According to business professor Susan Brodt, performance interviews can be a "waste of time" when sensitive topics go undiscussed and appraisals conducted annually or every six months often take place long after bad behavior occurs.

Furthermore, managers often can't obtain precise measurements of employees who work as part of a team. Others fear legal repercussions if they give a poor rating.

Companies need accurate and fair assessments of their workers for a variety of reasons, Schneier says.

Under stiff competition, "companies are raising [employee] performance expectations," he says. And if they are trying to evaluate staff for downsizing, they may discover "everybody has been evaluated alike."

Thus, Schneier says, "many firms are starting over" with the multiple input approach, among them General Electric Co., Citibank, J.P. Morgan & Co., Federal Express Corp., PepsiCo and some divisions of AT&T Corp.

Companies keeping the supervisor performance rating system, says Brodt, can nonetheless improve the process by using a number of innovative approaches:

- "Flip the appraisal process on its head. [Have] the employee provide feedback about the boss's performance as well."
- Incorporate peer reviews as part of the appraisal.
- Instead of fixing dates for evaluations, establish an ongoing dialogue. "Ideally," she says, "you want feedback to follow immediately after performance, not weeks or even months later."
- Employees should participate in the process. "The employee should not consider himself or herself a passive recipient in this process," Brodt says, and should take the initiative to "make sure that their successes and developmental needs are acknowledged."
- Get to the heart of the matter, tackling the important issues directly and "avoid alluding to or dancing around topics."
- Frame the discussion in a way that is not demeaning to the individual. If there's been a performance shortfall, find the reasons behind it. (Reuter)

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When chess was a sport

CHESS
NIGEL DAVIES

MY colleagues often look at me in surprise when I tell them I've spent the last week looking, for example, at the games of Savielly Tartakover.

"Why not look at modern games?" they ask. "Of what theoretical importance are the games of Tartakover?"

I try to explain that I like the feel of old games, the tussle between two individuals. In modern chess the first part of the game is usually nothing more than a repetition of some hackneyed theoretical line; the latter part may be a question of fitness in that one of the players loses patience in the fifth or sixth hour.

A sign of the times? Possibly. Listening to the BBC World Service commentary on the last Wimbledon tennis championships, I noted that the commentators are saddened by the way tennis is losing its character. Serve and volley often dominate and the players don't even smile. Surely, they ask, there is an obligation for the players to entertain?

The modern player of chess or tennis is merely trying to excel in a preordained role. The prizes are for winning, not for entertaining. Smiling can cause you to break your concentration.

It is difficult to know what to do about this problem. I suspect it has quite a fundamental root and that no amount of window dressing will provide a cure. Offering prizes for entertainment value rather than victory would be an artificial answer and we would be left nothing but a kind of circus.

When one talks about the Soviet school of chess there are essentially two eras. After Bobby Fischer took the world championship, there was a new emphasis on sporting efficiency as embodied in Anatoly Karpov. The pre-Fischer era was, in my opinion, far more interesting with chess being considered not so much a sport as a form of culture.

The explosion of chess ideas that took place in postwar Russia was nothing short of revolutionary. Players were constantly experimenting and taking risks; new opening deployments, new methods of attack and defense were evolved. Valery Panov, for example, was the author of the line 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 in the Caro-Kann Defense and developed an interesting method of counterattack against the Ruy Lopez or Spanish Opening.

Does this suggest that Fischer was to blame with his insistence on high prizes and efficient manner of play? Maybe.

Ravinsky – Panov
Spanish Opening

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.h3 d6 9.c3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Nbd2 Bb7 13.Nf1 cxd4 14.cxd4 Rac8

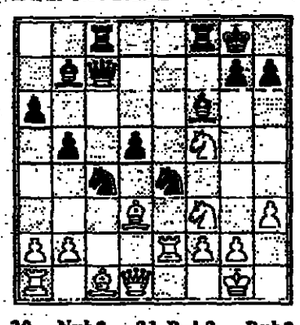
This variation would later carry Panov's name due to his theoretical research and fine victories with it. Black has quite surprising possibilities for counterattack based on ...d6-d5. Or if White closes the center with d4-d5, he often gets in a timely ....Nh5 and ....f7-f5: **15.Bd3 d5 16.dxe5 Nxe4 17.Ng3 f5! 18.exf6 Bxf6!**

A move with an interesting history. In the previous year's Moscow Championship, Panov had played this line against David Bronstein. But on his 17th move, he played the passive 17...Rfd8? rather than 17...f5.

Bronstein had prepared 17...f5 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.Ng5, infiltrating with the knight to e6. But at the board, he started to worry about 18...Bxf6.

After the game Bronstein queried his opponent about this: "Why not 17...f5?" Panov replied that he did not like the variation 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.Ng5. "Yes, of course," said Bronstein, "but you could have sacrificed a pawn."

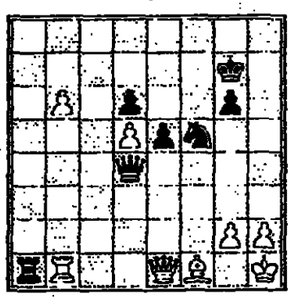
One year later, Panov knows exactly what to do.
19.Nf5 Nc4 20.Re2



20...Nxb2 21.Bxb2 Bxb2 22.Nh6+?

Weakening Black's pawns but losing valuable time and opening the g-file. **22...gxh6 23.Rxb2 Qg7 24.Bxe4 dxe4 25.Nd4 Kh8 26.Rd2 Rg8 27.g4 Qe5 28.Qb3 h5 29.Qe3 hxg4 30.h4 g3 31.f4 Qf6 32.Rad1 g2! 33.Qf2 Rc3 34.Nf5 Rh3 35.Qd4 Qxd4+ 0-1**

THIS WEEK'S problem is from one of Mark Taimanov's finest wins as Black against the then-world champion, Anatoly Karpov. Black to play and win (solution below diagram).



Solution: Taimanov produces a remarkably geometric combination with 1...Ng3+! after which Karpov resigned. After 2.Qxg3, 2...Rxb1, and 2.hxg3 is answered by 2...Ra8! followed by 3...Rh8+. More like snooker than chess.

How to recoup lost dignity

BRIDGE
MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

North
♠ QJ74
♡ KJ108
◇ Q42
♣ KJ

West (cow) (sheep)
♠ K1085
♡ 64
◇ J95
♣ 9763

East
♠ 962
♡ 95
◇ A10873
♣ 852

South
♠ A3
♡ AQ732
◇ K6
♣ AQ104

South	West	North	East
1♡	pass	3♡	pass
6♡	(all pass)		

Opening lead: ♡4

IN the September issue of *Bridge Today* magazine, London writer Shireen Mohandes offers some tips on how to deal with loss of dignity at the table.

We've all experienced that gutted feeling, writes Mohandes, bitter resentment because our dignity was at stake – and it was lost. It takes a while to get over the blow. Even being able to do this to someone else, although deliciously sweet, doesn't make up for a savage attack.

Mohandes describes some unconventional ways of irritating your opponents, and one way to avoid being irritated. The latter may be accomplished by refusing to give your opponent the satisfaction of endplaying or squeezing you. For example, when declarer is playing out his trumps and you're being squeezed, it is suggested that you simply throw in your cards and concede. Don't give declarer the satisfaction of actually seeing you suffer on the next-to-last trick.

One legitimate type of bridge maneuver is the Morton Fork Coup, whose history is given by Mohandes. John Morton, the Bishop of Ely, was not a bridge player, alas. Born circa 1420 and educated at Cerne Abbey and Balliol College, Oxford, he was a doctor of civil law and a key figure in Henry VII's government. An astute politician, he introduced a special tax. He asserted that those who spent freely must have considerable means, and those who spent little must have a lot saved up. In either case they could afford to pay the tax.

The bridge analogy of the Morton Fork Coup is a dilemma whereby a defender will lose out if he plays a high card on thin air, and also lose out if he doesn't win the trick. Today's diagram offers an example. Declarer can apply the Coup if he guesses correctly who holds the ace of diamonds. The opening trump lead is won in dummy, a second round of trumps is drawn, and a diamond is led from dummy toward the South hand.

East is in a dilemma. If he rises with the ace, South will have two diamond tricks – the king and, more important, the queen – with which to discard his losing small spade from the South hand. If East plays low when a diamond is led from dummy, the king will win, and then declarer plays out his clubs and discards the remaining two diamonds from dummy, losing zero diamond tricks (his other diamond can be ruffed in dummy).

But if West holds the ace of diamonds, declarer must lead a low diamond from the South hand toward the dummy instead.

Mohandes adds that the Morton Fork can be used to destroy your opponents' morale in a long match. On the diagram deal, she was the South player and had to guess who held the diamond ace. It was a 50-50 guess, but she had a peculiar clue: The player sitting West was known to be a cow! This less-than-affectionate term was given to her because of her temper toward her husband, sitting East. He could be described as a sheep, and the weaker of the two. He would be told off for one thing or another at the end of every hand; they would then call each other "darling," very sarcastically.

Cow led a heart. Declarer drew trumps and paused to reflect on the situation. The contract was cold if the king of spades was onside. Otherwise she had to guess who held the ace of diamonds.

Mohandes could play either opponent for the ace by leading though that person toward an honor. If she guessed right, that opponent would the victim of the Morton Fork Coup.

But whom should she play for the ace? If she played the Cow for it, and was successful, she would record the score and move on to the next hand. But, if she played the Sheep for it, and was successful, all hell would break loose. He'd be blamed regardless of what he did.

In an ironic way, the coup was made to have a double sting. The Sheep (East) did have the ace, and he ducked when Mohandes called for a small diamond from dummy. At the end of the hand, Cow went berserk and the ensuing disharmony helped declarer's team toward a victory.



To protect their very young fawns, gazelle mothers leave them among rocks or shrubs and come near only to nurse them. (Werner Braun)

As safe as (gazelle) mother's milk

NATURE
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

WHAT would you do if you found a baby gazelle lying quietly by the roadside?

A reader from Jerusalem recently wrote to ask this question. She and her two children, aged 10 and 12, saw the gazelle while walking along a dirt road near Beit Zayit.

It was very still and seemed to be asleep among the boulders by the road. The children were sure that it had been abandoned or was lost and wanted to take it home. Their mother had read someplace that the thing to do was leave it alone, so they did. But weeks later her children were still worrying that the little "Bambi" was lost, and that they had left it to die.

Our correspondent was quite right. Gazelle mothers always leave their very young fawns tucked away someplace among rocks, shrubs and the like, and only come to nurse them two or three times a day. This is their way of protecting them until they are old enough to follow the adults.

The fawn remains perfectly quiet for hours and is assisted by the special composition of the doe's very rich milk. This milk has an extremely high butterfat content and very little lactose, or milk sugar, so it takes a long time to digest. The baby is accordingly content to sleep for hours while digestion is taking place: and there isn't enough sugar in the milk to give it excess energy.

This is the case with quite a few animals, but especially deer and most antelopes.

The opposite is the case with young ibex, cattle, horses and elephants. Their newborn must be able to follow the herd within hours of birth. It's a form of protection, and the mother's milk is just right to support their lifestyle. The milk of these animals is low in fat but has a lot of protein and sugar. The youngsters get plenty of energy in order to keep up with the herd, and are not made sluggish by excessive butterfat.

There are many different techniques that animals adopt in order to protect their offspring, but in every case we find that the type of milk the mother supplies is exactly right to support the behavior.

Kangaroos and bears are, phylogenetically, about as far apart as can be; but they have the same behavior pattern when it comes to how their babies are cared for.

In both cases the baby nurses almost constantly for an extended period and does not move from the mother, one in her marsupial pocket, the other curled up with mom in her winter quarters. The surprising thing is that these two so very different animals have milk that is almost identical and perfect for the needs of their young.

Nature is infinite in its creation of life patterns, each of which is just right for one species or another.



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Easy steps for laying down the lawn

GARDENING
INEZ KLIMIST

FROM now until the middle of November is optimum planting time for new grass. Unless you don't intend to walk in the area for some months, your best bet is to put down sod, which is like a carpet, already woven and ready to use. The roots, after a season of growth, are a thick mat which is hardy and easy to handle.

Of the four types of grass popular here, Kikuya is the easiest to care for. But its robustness and resistance to drought are due to its network of strong roots, which make it extremely invasive. You must be willing to patrol lawn margins thoroughly at least monthly to keep roots out of flower beds and cracks in the patio. Runners must be pulled out and cut off. They are as thick as a pencil, tough as rope and full of small roots which hold fast to the soil. Once they take hold, you have to dig them up, and they often go very deep. Or spray them carefully with weed killer.

I have Kikuya in my yard and find it needs almost no care. Watering once a week or 10 days is enough, even in extreme summer heat. I fertilize it once in spring and again in early fall with a slow-release, dry fertilizer. Kikuuya is green and springy, thick and weed-resistant. Its coarse blades can take a lot of traffic, making it good for a play area, and I find it completely resistant to fungus. But in spring, Kikuya greens up more slowly than other grasses.

ALSO popular is Ceratsia Elturo. If you order less than 30 meters, there will probably be a delivery charge. Elturo is a much finer grass, deeper green and more expensive than Kikuya, but also easy to maintain and strong enough to bear traffic. The big advantage of Elturo is that it seems to stay green longer in winter and green up earlier in spring than other grasses. People who favor it say Elturo looks more elegant because the blades are finer.

If you have a shady garden, your best bet is buffalo grass, which will grow even under trees. It is rough and tough and invasive but easy to maintain.

Rarely used Super Elturo is very fine and expensive, not so suited to hard wear and more likely to get fungus diseases. It also needs more watering and care.

There is no mystery to laying a lawn. Prepare the area by clearing away debris and rocks and removing weeds, roots and all. Plow or fork over the area and break up large clods of earth. You can rent a plow by the day, but there is a delivery charge.

Put down a layer of good compost, and rake the entire area very smooth. Lay the sod as soon as possible after delivery on dry soil. Do not wet down the area first. Butt the strips of grass neatly against one another to achieve a seamless look. Then comes the most important step: Water, water, water. For the first two weeks water a great deal, and don't walk on the new grass. You'll leave holes wherever you walk.

After two weeks, cut the grass. It will be very long from all the watering. Use the cuttings as green manure in flower beds or toss on the compost heap. Then relax and enjoy your lawn.

SEVERAL READERS, all from Jerusalem, have asked how to plant and maintain avocado pits. There is only one final answer for Jerusalemites. The climate is too cold to grow avocado trees outside. If you enjoy starting the pits and watching them grow, keep them in the house in winter. They make a nice-looking houseplant if pruned well and kept from getting too leggy. Sorry, they will never bear fruit. Avocado trees raised for fruit must be grafted.

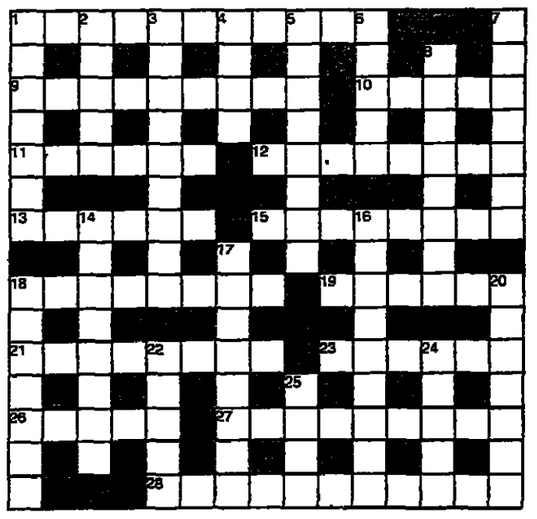
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

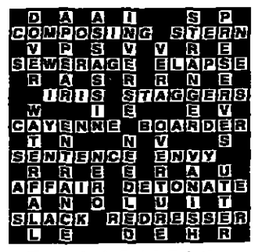
1 Took someone else's place when offered again (11)
9 Support for a fishermen's club? (5-4)
10 Some couples never get on edge (5)
11 Lets in favoured cliques (6)
12 Expert holding mean bungler liable (8)
13 Note the conductor is a really effusive individual (6)
15 Releases by turns (6)
18 Giving firm order, including the French salad (4-4)
19 Poles interrupt beasts, and that's not so bright! (6)
21 Serve the people present (8)
23 Port is drunk for good health (6)
26 A woman causing ill-feeling—one lacking nothing (5)
27 A row between holy men would be most surprising (9)
28 Adjusting of scale taken in hand—but not for long (4,1,6)

DOWN

1 Engineers with a sound training (7)
2 Boys in books (5)
3 The princess designated touching craft (9)
4 A country one has entered before (4)
5 Such accommodation as the workers get in principle (8)
6 Many vain characters will obtain a seat (5)
7 Don't exercise so much—it's futile (7)
8 Poet reflecting on the head's gloomy look (8)
14 The eccentric declines to be kept quiet (8)
16 The spare room (9)
17 Give voice about employment in a fairground attraction (8)
18 An apple for small fry (7)
20 Turned to trade possibly (7)
22 They may well act incisively naturally (5)
24 Mind greatly about a letter being returned (3,2)
25 The song of the vegetarian section (4)



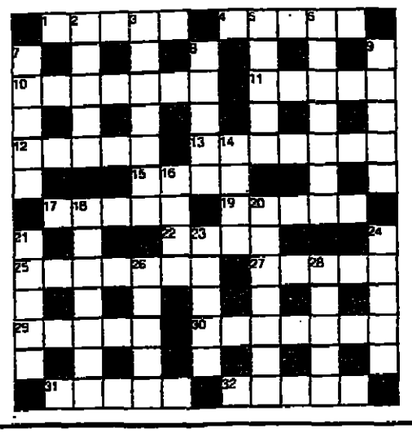
SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Sesame, 4 Cedes, 8 Repel, 9 Reever, 10 Drought, 11 Iron, 12 Eat, 14 Mere, 16 Heat, 18 Din, 21 Rend, 23 Elevate, 25 Tumbled, 26 Twine, 27 Sedge, 28 Unwell.

DOWN: 1 Stride, 2 Suppose, 3 Maligned, 4 Cock, 5 Dover, 6 Sprint, 7 Crate, 13 Threaten, 16 Avarice, 17 Gratis, 19 Needy, 20 Repeal, 22 Nomad, 24 Flea.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Induce (5)
4 Scintillated (5)
10 Charm (7)
11 Laughter (5)
12 Same again (5)
13 Sure (7)
15 Marsh plant (4)
17 Puncuation mark (5)
19 Stared (5)
22 Made haste (4)
25 Stir up (7)
27 Plenty (5)
29 Pigs (5)
30 Ripping (7)
31 Combine (5)
32 Begin (5)

DOWN

2 Darkness (5)
3 Even (7)
5 Greek poet (5)
6 Tell (7)
7 Home (5)
8 Small change (5)
9 Object (5)
14 Rim (4)
16 Orient (4)
18 View (7)
20 Inexorable (7)
21 Untrue (5)
23 Paltry (5)
24 Pretend (5)
26 Vigilant (5)
28 Former (5)

Where cleaning toilets leads to cleansed emotions

An Israeli couple recount their experiences as volunteers in Japan's Kibbutz Ittoen, where service to others is both a philosophy and a way of life, reports Judith Sudilovsky

AVIAM Ron-Carmel had taken the train from Kibbutz Ittoen to Kyoto earlier that morning with a kibbutz work crew. Now he found himself standing frozen in place on the street where he had been left holding a mop and pail, and dressed in standard blue work clothes, straw sandals, and a white headband around his forehead.

He knew what he was supposed to do: knock on the door of a Japanese home and ask to be allowed to clean their bathroom as a free service. But although his Japanese was good enough to say those simple words, his mouth was being as uncooperative as his feet. Finally a woman came out of one of the homes and asked if he was part of the Ittoen work crew. "Yes," Ron-Carmel replied, and the woman let him into her home.

"After that I wanted to clean as many bathrooms as possible," said Ron-Carmel, 37, who, with his wife, Tal, 34, and son, Ofek, now three and a half, returned to Israel recently after spending 18 months as volunteers on Kibbutz Ittoen. The family now lives in Moshav Herut, just north of Ra'anana.

"It gave me satisfaction to do something so different from my upbringing, and something totally different from my profession," he said.

Japan has some 50 kibbutzim with a total membership of about 6,000, said Ron-Carmel, who conducted a study of that country's kibbutzim for the International Communal Studies Association of Yad Tabenkin, the United Kibbutz Movement's research institute. Since his return, he has been lecturing on the subject.

EACH KIBBUTZ in Japan was founded by one person who had a particular world view and philosophy. The founder would actively seek followers who wished to join the kibbutz and follow that way of life.

Tenko Nishida, the founder of Ittoen, Japan's first kibbutz, was an exception in that he did not seek followers. Nonetheless he soon gained a following. He rejected the new values of consumerism brought on by the industrial revolution. In 1904 he set out on a life of service. His philosophy was quite simple: Relationships between people should be like those of a mother towards her child, in that a mother feeds her child without expecting anything in return.

At first, the members spent most of their time wandering around the countryside, doing any job that was asked of them, no matter how menial.

In 1913 the first house was donated to Kibbutz Ittoen, and the members began spending more time at home. Today they go out only a few times a year to offer their services, such as cleaning bathrooms and tending to gardens.

"When we went out to clean toilets in a hospital, the patients and nurses were all very thankful, but not because the bathrooms were dirty or because they did not have anybody else to do it. They knew they were doing us the favor of letting us clean the bathrooms because we wanted to cleanse ourselves emotionally," said Ron-Carmel, recalling tasks he would never have dreamed of doing when he worked at Bank Leumi's computer center in Lod.

"It was the opposite of everything I grew up with, but I didn't feel like a leper. This could never have happened in Israel. The attitude here would have been one of contempt. No one would dream of honestly thanking such a bunch of weirdos."

Today Ittoen runs a printing house, a construction company, a school, and an agricultural research and development center. Agriculture comprises the economic base of most kibbutzim in Japan.



A woman feeds a calf in a kibbutz of the Yamagishi movement, the most influential kibbutz movement in Japan. (Aviam Ron-Carmel)

THE MOST influential kibbutz movement in Japan was started by Yamagishi Miyozo in 1953. There are now 36 Yamagishi kibbutzim that collectively run close to 50 distribution centers for fruits and vegetables and meat products, and various yearly educational seminars. Mostly young married couples go to live on these kibbutzim.

There is no organized leadership of the Yamagishi kibbutzim, and all decisions are made at a group meeting called the *kensan*.

Yamagishi maintained that in order to effect societal changes, the individual first has to undergo change. People have to try to start again with a clean slate and inquire impartially into all things by using *kensan* – a deep examination into the truth.

The kibbutzim of Japan are not to be confused with communes, said Ron-Carmel. In 1968 the Japanese kibbutzim stressed this distinction when they officially changed the name of their central organization to Kibbutz Organization of Japan.

In a commune, noted Tal Ron-Carmel, people work outside and get a salary. They share only the work of the commune itself. But in Ittoen, as in Israeli kibbutzim, everybody works on the kibbutz itself and there is no private wealth.

ALTHOUGH IT may be difficult for Israelis to adapt to the slower, calmer Japanese way of life, Ron-Carmel said his affinity to Japanese culture could be attributed to the fact that over 200 years ago his whole family was Japanese. He said he learned of this through channeling, or speaking to spirits through a medium, before traveling to Japan. His wife has similar connections to the Japanese, he said. He added that he had been skeptical at first about channeling, but when they were in Japan many things occurred which had been predicted through channeling.

When she and her husband first arrived at Ittoen, Tal Ron-Carmel, who had spent three years at Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'acov with her Nahal army unit, expected to be put to work right away. Instead they were told to rest for a few days to get accustomed to the kibbutz. But after two days of doing nothing, her husband insisted on working and was assigned to the kitchen.

"One of the big differences is that in Israel the volunteers are assigned the hardest jobs, but it's not at all like that in Japan. I could be have been asked to wash the dishes just as easily as one of the kibbutz leaders," Ron-Carmel said. "After two months I asked if I could learn to cook. They treated me like one of the members."

Since there was no organized care for children under the age of three, Tal Ron-Carmel was not assigned a job so she could look after Ofek. Still, both she and Ofek took part in the morning ritual of cleaning the kibbutz grounds, and she often helped with clerical work at the school.

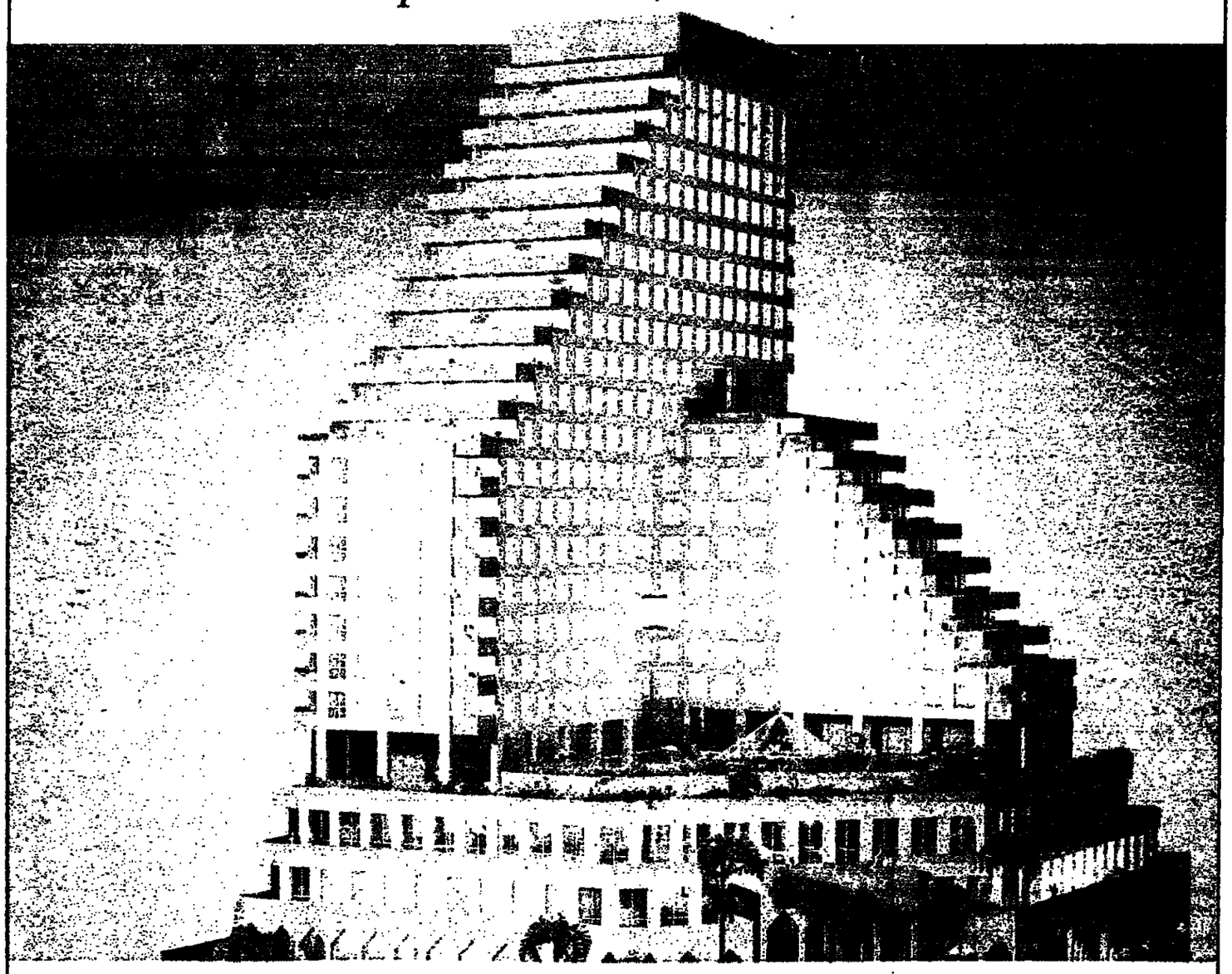
"At first it bothered me that I was not working because in Israel everybody works. But they told me not to think about it," she said. "They gave me the opportunity to attend a three-month Japanese-language course which they paid for, and also to study the martial art of Aikido. They also gave Aviam time off so we could travel."

Like her husband, she also went out twice to do "service work" in order to fully appreciate the Ittoen way of life.

Volunteers are not common on Japanese kibbutzim. During the time the Ron-Carmels lived at Ittoen, the only other visitors there were three Burmese students who stayed for a few months.

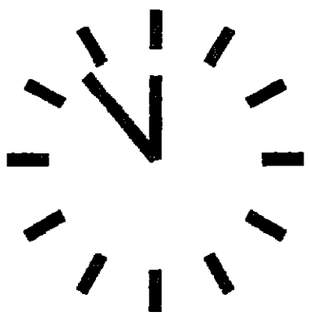
"I call what we did volunteering, but the members of Ittoen regarded us as people who wanted to come and learn about their way of life," Ron-Carmel said. "At first, when I started to ask questions, they told me to wait. Only after seven or eight months would I understand enough to be able to ask questions. You can't understand the Ittoen way of life with the intellect. You have to experience it with your body."

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Rabbi finds Tokyo is his cup of tea

A distant outpost of Judaism is filling a need for a largely transient, but involved, community. Leah Abramowitz reports

A Jewish community of 150 households may sound like a fairly standard pulpit for a big-city rabbi. But Rabbi James Lebeau's location is anything but standard: Tokyo.

No more than half a dozen of his congregation's member families are actually Japanese or even permanent residents. However, the community is active, and Lebeau and his wife, Marcia, have kept the 380 people attending services and cultural programs active.

"People are constantly overwhelmed that here, at the end of the world, there's a Jewish community," says the young-looking rabbi. "We play an important role giving Jewish services to anyone who happens to be in Japan."

There's a mikve on the premises, and kosher meals are available.

One recent Friday afternoon, an observant visiting professor, worried how he would manage over Shabbat, drove directly to the synagogue in a panic. He was relieved to find that he could pray and eat there.

"Do you realize," he asked the rabbi, "that in the whole Northern Hemisphere you are the first community to usher in the Shabbat? You make *Shabbes* even before Jerusalem. That's a very heavy responsibility."

Of the 40 to 80 people who turn up for Friday night services and dinner, most are single Jews far from home for reasons of work or study. In addition, there are always tourists and a few young backpackers.

A majority of the community's members are sent by employers. Half are Americans, one-third are Israelis, and others come from England, France, Australia and elsewhere.

Lebeau has conducted two marriages since he arrived a year ago; he's attended one brit – for which the *mohel* had to be flown in from Israel – and one burial in Japan's one Jewish cemetery, in Yokohama 20 kilometers away.

He's also conducted two conversions. Some veteran members of the congregation are married to Japanese women.

Even before going to Tokyo, the rabbi had done a fair amount of traveling. A native of Akron, Ohio, Lebeau studied at New York's Jewish Theological Seminary and served as a US Navy chaplain for two years. For 13 years, he was the rabbi of a synagogue in Lowell, Massachusetts. The Lebeaus and their three children moved to Jerusalem in 1985. "We'd been going to Israel every second year with [youth] groups and for sabbaticals. We thought it was time to make it permanent."

During his first six years in Israel, Lebeau coordinated the Jerusalem programs of JTS and a Conservative seminary training Latin American Conservative rabbis. Then he turned to real estate for two years.

"I was doing very well when, out of the blue, I got a call from a friend, who's a member of the Israeli Embassy in Tokyo," Lebeau says. "He asked me if I would consider becoming rabbi of Japan's Jewish community.

"I'd never been to Japan, but the idea of returning to the pulpit and traveling to the Far East intrigued me," he continues. "Our children were grown up. For Marcia it was hardest, because she was doing fulfilling work, but we decided last June, 'Why not?' "

The congregation was founded 41 years ago by members of the Shanghai Jewish community who had moved to Tokyo when the Communists came to power in China. Shanghai's Jews were of Iraqi or Russian descent, or Holocaust survivors. Over 6,000 of the latter had been saved by Japan's acting consul in Lithuania, Chiune Sugihara, through 1940.

Carrying transit visas issued by Sugihara, Jews arrived in Kobe and were transferred as enemy aliens to Shanghai. Despite difficult conditions during the war, the Jewish community prospered, laying the groundwork for what would be an active community in Tokyo.

Lebeau has helped publicize Sugihara's brave, humanitarian actions, for which he was fired at the end of the war. Sugihara lived out his life in poverty and died in 1985.

One of Lebeau's major roles is as a representative of the Jewish world to Japanese institutions. For many of them, the issue they are most interested in now is the Holocaust. "I don't quite understand it. *The Diary of Anne Frank* has been a best seller in this country for over 40 years," he says.

Lebeau feels his most important function in Tokyo is as an educator. The community center conducts a once-weekly Hebrew school for 35 children and activities which keep the community's 20 teenagers involved .

Lebeau, who is especially concerned about the teenagers, encouraged them to organize the first large-scale Israel Independence Day picnic in Tokyo. "It was an unheard-of event," Marcia Lebeau says. "In Japan, everything is very subdued and private. Celebrations are always held inside, hidden from the public eye. Our Independence Day outdoor picnic broke with convention, but was a huge success."

The Hebrew-school pupils deposited torn prayer books and torn pages from other religious volumes in the *geniza* at a nearby American military base. The children reorganized the 50-year-old *geniza*, which was in state of neglect.